

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
ATLANTA DIVISION

DONNA CURLING, et al., )  
Plaintiffs, )

v. )

BRAD RAFFENSPERGER, et al., )  
Defendants. )

---

CIVIL ACTION FILE

NO. 1:17-cv-02989-AT

DEPOSITION OF  
JOSEPH KIRK

July 11, 2019



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FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
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DONNA CURLING, et al.,	)	
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	)	
BRAD RAFFENSPERGER, et al.,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

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DEPOSITION OF

JOSEPH KIRK

July 11, 2019

9:46 a.m.

Frank Moore Administration & Judicial Center

135 West Cherokee Avenue

Cartersville, Georgia

Marsi Koehl, CCR-B-2424



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21 Also present:

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23 Justin Berger, Esq.

24 (Pursuant to OGCA 15-14-37 (a) and (b) a  
25 written disclosure statement was submitted by the  
court reporter and is attached hereto.)

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Plaintiff's Exhibit 38 was marked for  
identification.)

JOSEPH KIRK

having been first duly sworn, was examined and  
testified as follows:

EXAMINATION

BY MR. POWERS:

Q. Good morning.

A. Good morning.

Q. My name is John Powers. I'm an attorney  
with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under  
Law. I'm one of the counsels representing the  
plaintiffs today and I'll be taking your deposition.

A. Okay.

Q. Could you please state and spell your full  
name for the record.

A. Joseph Kirk. J-O-S-E-P-H. K-I-R-K.

Q. And, Mr. Kirk, have you ever been deposed  
before?

A. No.

Q. Have you ever offered sworn testimony in any  
other capacity?

A. I've offered sworn statements before.

Q. In what context were those?

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1 A. Usually, the ones spring to mind, are times  
2 where noncitizens register to vote and I -- due to a  
3 mistake of a clerk, or error, too, by the Department  
4 of Driver Services, I need to --  
5 (incomprehensible) -- immigration and they get  
6 deported.

7 THE REPORTER: I'm sorry, sir. You're  
8 going to have to slow down. I'm having a  
9 hard time understanding you.

10 THE WITNESS: I apologize.

11 THE REPORTER: Thank you.

12 THE WITNESS: The last sworn statement I  
13 can think of is giving it to the immigration  
14 department because someone was registered to  
15 vote but was a non-citizen and -- because of  
16 a clerical error. So they would back that  
17 out and not deport the person.

18 BY MR. POWERS:

19 Q. Got it. And this is through Georgia's  
20 automatic voter registration process?

21 A. This was over 10 years ago --

22 Q. Got it.

23 A. -- so before that.

24 Q. Got it. And for the benefit of the court  
25 reporter, perhaps, I'll go through some rules.

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1 And, first, as she mentioned, because she  
2 has to be taking the record today, if you could  
3 please wait until I finish my sentence before you  
4 start answering, I'd greatly appreciate it. And if  
5 you could speak at a steady pace, so she can follow  
6 along, it would be most appreciative.

7 Second, if you don't understand one of my  
8 questions, feel free to ask for clarification and  
9 I'll try to rephrase it so that you do understand.

10 And, finally, I want to make sure that you  
11 understand that you're testifying under oath today  
12 just the same as if you're in a court of law.

13 A. I understand.

14 Q. And you should feel free to take a break at  
15 any time as long it's not while a question is  
16 pending.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: Just so I'm clear, where  
18 do we stand on objections?

19 MR. POWERS: In terms, of -- you can  
20 state --

21 MR. MILLER: Yeah, I was going to wait  
22 until whenever we did the documents, but  
23 I'll go ahead and state my objection for the  
24 record.

25 We electronically served objections last



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1 night on all of the parties. If you have  
2 not received copies of those, please let me  
3 know now. I believe, Mr. Phillips, we also  
4 cc'd you on that --

5 MR. PHILLIPS: Yes.

6 MR. MILLER: -- again, as the parties  
7 had consented to in that context.

8 Most of our depositions -- excuse me.  
9 Most of our objections aren't anything new,  
10 but, nonetheless, just to put that on the  
11 record.

12 Repeated out of the letter that was sent  
13 to you last night, with respect to request  
14 1, 2 and 19 that seek post- and pre-election  
15 GEMS database files; and request 3, 4 and  
16 16, which may also contain information which  
17 is protected under state law and at a bare  
18 minimum should be subject to a protective  
19 order.

20 MR. PHILLIPS: Just to echo that, on  
21 behalf of nonparty Joseph Kirk, I did file  
22 an objection yesterday. I think you-all  
23 received that.

24 And the essence of that objection is on  
25 those items enumerated by Mr. Miller, I

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1 believe it was 1, 2 and 19, for state law  
2 reasons.

3 MR. POWERS: Just kind of for  
4 clarification and housekeeping purposes, I  
5 will, Mr. Phillips [sic], hand you what I've  
6 marked for identification as Plaintiff's  
7 Exhibit 39.

8 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 39 was marked for  
9 identification.)

10 BY MR. POWERS:

11 Q. I'll represent that this is the subpoena  
12 that we sent out for documents in your deposition.

13 Have you seen this document before,  
14 Mr. Phillips?

15 A. I have.

16 MR. POWERS: Great.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: Just for clarification,  
18 Mr. Kirk -- you keep calling him,  
19 Mr. Phillips.

20 MR. POWERS: Oh, sorry.

21 MR. PHILLIPS: That's all right. I'm  
22 Phillips. He's Kirk.

23 MR. POWERS: Got it.

24 MR. PHILLIPS: It's like a Star Trek  
25 deposition.

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1 MR. POWERS: That's right. That's  
2 right.

3 Sorry, Mr. Kirk.

4 BY MR. POWERS:

5 Q. So I understand, counsel has raised some  
6 objections to certain requests within this subpoena  
7 attached to this Plaintiff's Exhibit 39.

8 Did you bring any documents with you today  
9 in response to the subpoena?

10 A. I did.

11 Q. And what documents did you bring?

12 A. You want me to list all of them?

13 Q. Yeah. Why don't we go through them?

14 (Witness hands counsel document.)

15 MR. POWERS: Okay. You've handed me a  
16 document, Mr. Kirk, that I'm marking  
17 Plaintiff's Exhibit 40.

18 THE WITNESS: And that's all documents I  
19 brought with me, either specifically or in  
20 general terms.

21 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 40 was marked for  
22 identification.)

23 BY MR. POWERS:

24 Q. And, Mr. Kirk, are these the same documents  
25 that your counsel has previously produced to

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1 plaintiffs in this matter?

2 A. Some of them.

3 Q. Are there -- perhaps, for efficiency's sake,  
4 can you distinguish between documents that you --

5 A. These?

6 Q. Yeah.

7 A. That one. So this is for -- I guess, let's  
8 go through it line by line.

9 Q. Yeah.

10 A. The first three items -- excuse me, the  
11 first two items, we objected to.

12 No. 3 you asked for documents that describe  
13 ballot proofing. I gave you the same documents I  
14 gave you last time that were used to proof the  
15 ballots for that election.

16 In No. 5, you asked for investigations for  
17 duplicate ballots for the reasons of canceling or  
18 just investigating. You can't investigate a ballot  
19 canceled. It's not possible once it's cast.

20 But I have had people vote twice in the  
21 past, in that time frame, and those are records of  
22 the investigations into those double votes.

23 And there's at least one thing in there  
24 that's new to you that you didn't get last time.

25 Q. Okay. If we can just stop for a second,

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1 what I'll do is as we're going through and you're  
2 handing me stuff, I'll go ahead and mark it as an  
3 exhibit and then we can move on to the next one.

4 Does that work for you?

5 A. That's fine.

6 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 41 was marked for  
7 identification.)

8 BY MR. POWERS:

9 Q. So I'm marking the documents you just  
10 referenced as Plaintiff's Exhibit 41.

11 A. Okay.

12 Q. So add it to the pile.

13 A. So just leave it in the middle of the table?

14 Q. Yeah, and we can move on.

15 A. That brings us to No. 6. I have nothing in  
16 response for that request.

17 No. 7, information on retrieval of specific  
18 cast vote record for the purpose of research and  
19 canceling, no response to that request.

20 No. 8, I gave you the same official election  
21 bulletin I gave you the last time. That's the only  
22 thing I've got for that.

23 No. 9, you asked for contracts I had with  
24 municipalities to conduct their elections on their  
25 behalf. That's a copy of each of them. They are all

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1 basically the same.

2 MR. POWERS: Great. Thank you.

3 And I am going ahead and marking those  
4 contracts you just referenced as Plaintiff's  
5 Exhibit 42.

6 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 42 was marked for  
7 identification.)

8 BY MR. POWERS:

9 Q. All right. Let's move on.

10 A. That brings us to 10. You asked for a  
11 document that describes the number of databases that  
12 were created for the November 6, 2018 election, I  
13 believe.

14 Q. Yeah.

15 A. I wasn't entirely clear what you meant by  
16 that, whether it's back-ups or just where each copy  
17 of the database that's external to my office went.  
18 That's the direction I went with it.

19 (Reporter instructs witness to slow down  
20 and speak clearly.)

21 THE WITNESS: In this case, this is a  
22 document called, Who Gets What and Who Gets  
23 to Keep It from the Secretary of State's  
24 Office that describes record retention  
25 policies after the election. That includes

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1 the two databases that's external to my  
2 office.

3 MR. POWERS: Great. And I am marking  
4 that as Plaintiff's Exhibit 43.

5 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 43 was marked for  
6 identification.)

7 MR. MILLER: Just to be clear, we're on  
8 request 10 right now or 11? I'm sorry. I  
9 missed that.

10 THE WITNESS: Ten.

11 MR. MILLER: Ten, okay.

12 BY MR. POWERS:

13 Q. Okay.

14 A. The next one, you've asked for changes in  
15 procedure for the DRE voting system, specifically for  
16 the security. This is a training presentation for  
17 the Center of Election Systems.

18 MR. POWERS: Great. And I will go ahead  
19 and mark this as Plaintiff's Exhibit 44.

20 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 44 was marked for  
21 identification.)

22 MR. POWERS: Okay.

23 THE WITNESS: You asked for all  
24 communications from the Secretary of State's  
25 Office related to security threats to the

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1 voting system or election-related equipment  
2 after January 1st, 2016.

3 Sorry. I'm not sure what in here you  
4 haven't had before I didn't give you last  
5 time.

6 MR. POWERS: I'll go ahead and mark this  
7 as Plaintiff's Exhibit 45.

8 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 45 was marked for  
9 identification.)

10 BY MR. POWERS:

11 Q. And could you explain -- it looks like it's  
12 a pretty big stack, so could you explain it in a  
13 little more detail?

14 A. They are election updates. I'm assuming at  
15 this point you're familiar with what election updates  
16 are.

17 Q. Yeah. Sorry, but for the sake of the  
18 record, why don't you explain what election updates  
19 are?

20 A. Basically, communication from the Secretary  
21 of State's Office to election officials about changes  
22 to procedure or reminding us of things or pretty much  
23 anything they need to tell us in an official  
24 capacity.

25 Q. Are these election updates the same thing as



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1 OEBS?

2 A. No. Which is the next thing I was about to  
3 say. There are also official election bulletins in  
4 there which are usually more formal than the election  
5 updates.

6 MR. POWERS: I see. And I'm, again,  
7 marking for the record Plaintiff's  
8 Exhibit 45.

9 THE WITNESS: There are also a couple of  
10 E-mails in there from Chris Harvey that went  
11 out statewide, as well as a memo from the  
12 Department of Homeland Security and a -- at  
13 the back, a respective document from the  
14 Department of Homeland Security about  
15 security issues for elections that came from  
16 the Secretary of State's office.

17 BY MR. POWERS:

18 Q. Got it. Very good. What's next?

19 A. Next, you asked for any alleged voting  
20 system malfunction for the November 6, 2018  
21 elections. I gave you all that last time, so there's  
22 nothing new.

23 Q. Mm-hmm, right.

24 A. No. 14, you asked for any kind of analysis  
25 or investigation of the undervotes of the lieutenant

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1 governor's race. I have nothing in response to that  
2 request.

3 No. 15, any communications received from  
4 pretty much anybody about alleged inaccuracies in the  
5 express poll data for the November 6, 2018 general  
6 election. I have two incident reports from one of my  
7 polling places where voters alleged that they had  
8 submitted change of address forms that were not  
9 reflected at the polling place on election day.

10 I say "alleged" because the data was  
11 correct; voters just thought they changed their  
12 address.

13 MR. POWERS: Thank you. And I will mark  
14 that as Plaintiff's Exhibit 46.

15 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 46 was marked for  
16 identification.)

17 BY MR. POWERS:

18 Q. How are you able to determine for the voters  
19 in -- referenced in Plaintiff's Exhibit 46 that the  
20 information in their voter registration file was  
21 accurate?

22 A. That was a long time ago when I did that  
23 investigation, at least it feels that way now. But  
24 I'm assuming that I went back and looked at the  
25 paperwork we had on file to see why either it wasn't

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1 processed or if it wasn't even submitted.

2 In many cases voters think they submit  
3 something when it never happened or the card is  
4 filled incorrectly at the polling place on election  
5 day where they put their new address on the bottom of  
6 the form, their old address at the top of form so  
7 that they're confirming their old address rather than  
8 changing it.

9 That's been a big problem for us.

10 Q. Mm-hmm, got it.

11 So take -- I hand you back Plaintiff's  
12 Exhibit 46. And if you could describe what this  
13 voter is alleging said happened to him or her.

14 A. What the form says, Darrin Prewett. Wrong  
15 precinct. Express poll says he should vote at the  
16 ATCO Baptist Church -- or ATCO Baptist. This was at  
17 the Woodland precinct.

18 His wife is registered at this precinct. He  
19 said he voted here in the presidential election. He  
20 was not happy.

21 I told him to go to the Elections Office to  
22 get it fixed. And I cannot tell you the specifics of  
23 that situation.

24 Q. Just to make sure I understand it,  
25 Mr. Prewett and his wife were registered at different

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1 polling places; is that correct?

2 A. Mm-hmm.

3 Q. And he's saying -- and, sorry, again, for  
4 the sake of the record, when I ask a question -- and  
5 I do this sometimes, too -- instead of saying  
6 "mm-hmm," if you could please say "yes" or "no."

7 So Mr. Prewett and his wife were at  
8 different polling places in terms of their voter  
9 registration; is that correct?

10 A. That's what the document says.

11 Q. And Mr. Prewett is saying, I submitted a  
12 change of address information to be at the same  
13 address as my wife; is that right?

14 MR. MILLER: John, if you don't mind,  
15 I'm going to go ahead and state an objection  
16 with respect to the scope of discovery in  
17 this case. As long as we're talking about  
18 documents that are here, you know, okay for  
19 now. But just to go ahead and put it on the  
20 record.

21 This is venturing into common cause  
22 territory, a case that's already been  
23 settled, not regarding the DRE voting  
24 machines. It's items that we've mentioned  
25 before but just to go ahead and put it on

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1 the record.

2 BY MR. POWERS:

3 Q. You may answer.

4 A. And, no, that's not what it says.

5 Q. Okay. Sorry.

6 A. It says nothing about when he changes his  
7 registration, just that he was upset he wasn't  
8 registered at the same location as his wife.

9 Q. And turning to the next page in Plaintiff's  
10 Exhibit 46, could you please explain the complaints  
11 raised by Ms. Bell?

12 A. This one is also at the Woodland Precinct.  
13 It says, Sharon Bell. Wrong precinct. She said this  
14 happened the last four times. I suggested she come  
15 by the office to get it corrected.

16 And this I suspect -- and this is  
17 speculation without going back and researching it.  
18 But this is an issue we've had a lot of problems with  
19 at our polling places, where a voter tries to change  
20 their address and because the form -- the voter  
21 registration form bottom says "change of address" and  
22 requests a previous address, the voter thinks that  
23 means that the change goes at the bottom and the  
24 current address goes at the top.

25 The poll worker doesn't catch it because

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1 they're in a hurry. We get it back at the office.  
2 Have to process it the way the voter submitted it.  
3 They come back the next election and say, I did this  
4 last time.

5 And this is an issue I've been taking care  
6 of with training. We're chipping away at it. It's  
7 getting better, but it happens.

8 Q. Okay. Got it. Thank you.

9 Are there any other sets of documents that  
10 you've brought with you today that you haven't  
11 brought with you before?

12 A. Let's see. That was 15.

13 Sixteen, you requested -- oh, yes -- any and  
14 all documents talking about transmission of files to  
15 and from the Center for Election Systems.

16 MR. POWERS: I am marking these  
17 documents as Plaintiff's Exhibit 47.

18 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 47 was marked for  
19 identification.)

20 THE WITNESS: Just to run through these  
21 documents real quick. Most of it is  
22 communication from the State on a statewide  
23 level about timing and things of that nature  
24 and logistics.

25 There are a coupling of buzz posts on

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1       there, which I guess for the record is a  
2       message board on a statewide website called  
3       Firefly that most administers use to  
4       communicate both either statewide guidance  
5       or a couple of questions from counties on  
6       how to proceed. And then some schedules for  
7       pickup and delivery of express poll files or  
8       GEMS database.

9       BY MR. POWERS:

10       Q. Great. Thank you.

11       Aside from those documents, any other others  
12       that you didn't produce in response to plaintiff's  
13       first subpoena?

14       A. Next one, 17, is completely the same as last  
15       time about the pilot project.

16       Invoices -- No. 18 is invoices for paper  
17       ballot cost for the 2012 election -- or 2018, excuse  
18       me.

19       Q. Thank you.

20       A. Those are invoices.

21       MR. POWERS: And I'll go ahead and --

22       THE WITNESS: And, of course, we object  
23       to -- which is No. 19.

24       MR. POWERS: Sorry. Just to go back, I  
25       will mark the invoices that you just

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1 referenced as Plaintiff's Exhibit 48.

2 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 48 was marked for  
3 identification.)

4 BY MR. POWERS:

5 Q. Great. And, again, for -- so those are all  
6 the documents?

7 A. Those are all the documents that I believe  
8 are different from the documents you got in the past  
9 and then I have other documents that I think are  
10 duplicates.

11 MR. POWERS: Great. Again, for  
12 housekeeping purposes, I am handing you what  
13 I've marked for identification as  
14 Plaintiff's Exhibit 49.

15 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 49 was marked for  
16 identification.)

17 BY MR. POWERS:

18 Q. I'll represent to you that this was the  
19 first subpoena that we sent out on June 13th, 2019.

20 Do you see that date?

21 A. I see June 27th.

22 Oh, there it is. There it is. Yes.

23 Q. And you -- Mr. Kirk, you previously provided  
24 documents in response --

25 MR. PHILLIPS: Just to be clear,



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1 Mr. Powers. There are multiple dates on  
2 this document. Can you just clarify which  
3 date you're referring to?

4 MR. POWERS: Sure, sure. I'm -- that's  
5 fair.

6 BY MR. POWERS:

7 Q. Mr. Kirk, do you see where I'm, at the  
8 bottom of the page, referring to the date of service  
9 right above clerk of court and the attorney Bruce  
10 Brown's signature?

11 A. I do see that now. It does say June 13th  
12 and I apologize. I said the document production date  
13 the first time.

14 Q. No problem.

15 And, Mr. Kirk, you previously before today  
16 produced documents in response to this subpoena;  
17 correct?

18 A. I did.

19 Q. Thank you for bearing with me through the  
20 housekeeping. We may return to some of those  
21 documents later.

22 Let's go through a little bit about your  
23 background. Mr. Kirk, how long have you been a  
24 resident of Bartow County?

25 A. Since September of 2007.

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1 Q. Great. And let's go back a little further.  
2 Would you mind telling me little bit about  
3 your educational background?

4 A. I have a degree in computer science from the  
5 University of Georgia.

6 Q. Are you a lifelong Georgia resident?

7 A. I am. I moved out briefly to Mississippi  
8 for a couple of years after college, but then I moved  
9 back.

10 Q. Where were you born, Mr. Kirk?

11 A. Rome, Georgia.

12 Q. Could you please tell me a little bit about  
13 your postgraduate professional background?

14 A. After I graduated, I worked for the  
15 Secretary of State of Mississippi for around two  
16 years implementing their statewide DRE voting  
17 solution and was working as a contractor. Decided  
18 I'd like to be a regular employee and be closer to  
19 home. Applied for the job here in Bartow County.  
20 Was successful and have been here since.

21 Q. Thank you. And, roughly, during what years  
22 did you work for the Mississippi Secretary of State's  
23 Office?

24 A. Roughly 2005 to 2007.

25 Q. Could you describe a little more what work

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1 you were doing with respect to implementing the  
2 State's DRE voting solution statewide?

3 A. My role was to interface with the vendor,  
4 with the county election officials. I was in  
5 charge -- well, not in charge of, but I wrote the  
6 bulk of the training documentation for the voting  
7 system.

8 We developed a statewide document for how to  
9 conduct elections in Mississippi starting with  
10 qualifying and ending with certification and  
11 retention.

12 And mostly focused on training. And if  
13 you're familiar with the liaison role here in  
14 Georgia, similar to that.

15 Q. For the sake of the record, would you mind  
16 describing what the liaison role --

17 A. The liaison role at the Secretary of State's  
18 Office is one that the county election officials  
19 interface with as their first point of contact with  
20 the State.

21 So if we have a question, if we have a  
22 concern, if we need information or need to send  
23 something in, that's our first point.

24 Q. Right now, who's the liaison at the  
25 Secretary of State's Office who you work with when

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1 you have questions?

2 A. Lee Combs.

3 Q. I'm sorry. I didn't quite hear that myself.  
4 Kemps?

5 A. Lee Combs.

6 Q. Combs. Got it.

7 A. I think that's her last name. She's a  
8 little new to the role. I haven't talked to her too  
9 much yet, so if I have her last name wrong, I  
10 apologize.

11 Q. No problem.

12 Who was the liaison before that?

13 A. Melanie Frechette.

14 Q. What was the DRE voting system that you were  
15 working to implement in Mississippi during that 2005  
16 to 2007 period?

17 A. The -- I guess the best way to describe it  
18 is the AccuVote TSX voting system with attached paper  
19 trail, which I think at the beginning was produced by  
20 Diebold and then changed to Premier and then...

21 Q. As part of your work, were you involved at  
22 all in any programming or database building kind of  
23 work?

24 A. I was.

25 Q. Could you describe to me what work you were

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1 doing along those lines?

2 A. Not much. Mississippi chose to heavily rely  
3 on the vendor to help them through that process. And  
4 as such, a lot of the database development was done  
5 that way.

6 My role was more, like I said, training and  
7 run training documentation. So, yes, I knew how to  
8 do it, but I wasn't actually doing it for the  
9 counties.

10 Some other thing to mention about  
11 Mississippi is that it's opposite of the State of  
12 Georgia where it's bottom up rather than top down.  
13 So we were -- there was more negotiation with the  
14 counties than telling them what to do.

15 Q. Could you explain how Georgia differs from  
16 Mississippi in that regard?

17 A. In Georgia, the Secretary of State's Office  
18 had statutory authority through rule making  
19 capability to specify how we do certain things. Now,  
20 our local board retains a lot of authority for  
21 interpretation and how we actually implement the  
22 laws. But the State can tell us what to do in  
23 certain cases, where in Mississippi we had no  
24 authority to tell them to do anything.

25 Q. Got it. And I'm trying to make sure I

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1 understand this correctly.

2 Is it fair to say that in Mississippi the  
3 vendor did the vast majority of the programming of  
4 the DRE machines?

5 A. While I was there. Now, after I left, I  
6 couldn't tell you what happened.

7 Q. Is it fair to say that in Mississippi during  
8 the period you were there the vendor did the bulk of  
9 the database building, for example, building ballots  
10 and that sort of thing?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Does that differ at all from how things work  
13 in Georgia?

14 A. I think so. The difference is in  
15 Mississippi they were never trained on how to do it  
16 on the county level. While I was there, we were to  
17 the point they could be absolutely autonomous in that  
18 process.

19 Not to go too deep into that, but the  
20 intention was for two pieces of software to interface  
21 with each other. And the two vendors never managed  
22 to make it work. So the vendor doing all the  
23 programming was a stopgap measure --

24 THE REPORTER: I'm sorry. The vendor  
25 doing all the what?

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1 THE WITNESS: Doing all the programming  
2 was a stopgap measure to try to get by until  
3 the software worked properly.

4 This interface was an export out of the  
5 voter registration system into the election  
6 system and it was -- the data types didn't  
7 match.

8 BY MR. POWERS:

9 Q. And with respect to that, you're talking  
10 about Mississippi; correct?

11 A. Absolutely. In Georgia, we can program the  
12 databases ourselves if we want to. And some of us do  
13 have that knowledge. I've never chosen to go down  
14 that path, but we can.

15 Q. Mm-hmm, mm-hmm. And let's talk about  
16 specifically when you say "programming databases,"  
17 what specifically are you talking about?

18 A. How do I word this?

19 I'm talking about configuring the GEMS  
20 software and election file with all the underlying  
21 information that creates the ballots, the candidate  
22 names, the race names, the headers, all that, to  
23 appear correctly on the paper ballot or a voting  
24 machine screen.

25 Q. Got it. Thank you.

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1 This is something that you'd have the  
2 capability of doing yourself if you want to?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Is training provided on how to do that by  
5 the Georgia Secretary of State's Office?

6 A. I'm actually not sure.

7 Q. Did you train yourself to be able to do that  
8 kind of programming?

9 A. I was trained on it. Going back farther in  
10 my career, while I was in college I worked for the  
11 Center for Election Systems. In fact, I was one of  
12 the first people that was hired there. So I received  
13 training through that job to create a database.

14 Q. Oh. When did you work at the Center for  
15 Election Systems?

16 A. From 2001 or 2002 throughout my college  
17 career. I started working there the summer of my  
18 freshman year. I helped write the original  
19 acceptance test. And then after that I worked as an  
20 acceptance tester during the summers going to between  
21 counties, testing the old equipment to any new  
22 equipment or initial all new equipment to make sure  
23 it functioned properly.

24 Q. Let's break that down a little bit. Help me  
25 out.



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1           You said that you helped write the  
2 acceptance test. What does that mean?

3           A. It's a test that each piece of equipment is  
4 put through at the time of its purchase or at the  
5 time of its repair to ensure that the hardware  
6 functions properly, the software functions properly,  
7 the proper software is on the equipment and nothing  
8 else is on the equipment.

9           Q. Mm-hmm. Did you have any other  
10 responsibilities while you were at the Center for  
11 Election Systems?

12          A. I operated a call center.

13          Q. What kind of calls were you dealing with at  
14 the call center?

15          A. Frankly, not many. That was right when the  
16 system was purchased and KSU got that contract. And  
17 most counties didn't have their equipment yet while I  
18 was working at the call center to call to have any  
19 questions...

20          Q. Your role is essentially to help  
21 troubleshoot in case counties called --

22          A. Back then it was mostly logistics. When are  
23 we getting it? When are you-all coming? That sort  
24 of thing.

25          Q. What time was that around?

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1 A. That was -- that was the summer of my  
2 freshman year. So 2001, 2002, right around there.

3 Q. Who were you working with while you were at  
4 the Center for Election Systems?

5 A. I cannot remember my boss's name for the  
6 life of me. In fact, I've tried to remember that  
7 recently.

8 There was another person there that I worked  
9 with in the call center named Robby. I couldn't tell  
10 you his last name. And all this was under the  
11 direction of Merle King.

12 And then while I was there, Tara Robey  
13 (phonetic) and Anthony -- I cannot think of his last  
14 name -- were also there.

15 Q. Did you work with someone by the name of  
16 Britt Williams?

17 A. Yes. Thank you. He was the main author of  
18 that test.

19 Q. Who were you interacting with most  
20 frequently on sort of a day-to-day basis?

21 A. Robby, my boss -- I cannot think of his  
22 name -- and then Britt, of course, because of that  
23 test.

24 Q. So is it fair to say you've been working  
25 with the current generation of DRE voting machines

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1 basically since the inception?

2 A. Sort of. When I went to Mississippi, that's  
3 a different version of the software on all levels, a  
4 different version of the equipment. There are  
5 changes between those. But theirs was a little bit  
6 newer because they bought it a little bit later. But  
7 besides that, yes, I've been working with this my  
8 entire career.

9 Q. Could you explain in more detail for me the  
10 differences between the voting machines used in  
11 Mississippi versus those used in Georgia?

12 A. Well, the main difference besides different  
13 software numbers and small changes there is their  
14 system had a paper trail which was problematic.

15 Q. Elaborate on that.

16 A. It's hard to install. It's hard for the  
17 poll workers to operate. If it jams, there's no  
18 indication that it's jammed once the voter looks at  
19 the actual paper trail.

20 The question comes up: What's the vote of  
21 record? The paper receipt that you know is missing  
22 votes or the electronic copy that you've tested and  
23 are confident that all the votes are there as they  
24 should be.

25 Q. Just so I make sure I understand this.

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1 So with the Mississippi AccuVote TSX  
2 machines that you described earlier, those machines  
3 had an issue where sometimes the voters' choices  
4 would not be recorded on the actual paper receipt  
5 that got spit out after voting?

6 MR. MILLER: And, Mr. Kirk, if you don't  
7 mind, I'm just going to object as we  
8 continue to go down the past of Mississippi  
9 on scope and relevance grounds.

10 We've already -- Mr. Kirk has already  
11 noted it's different software, different  
12 version of the equipment; things of that  
13 nature. I just want to put that on the  
14 record.

15 BY MR. POWERS:

16 Q. You may answer.

17 A. I apologize. What was your question?

18 MR. POWERS: Marsi, would you mind?

19 (Whereupon, the record was read by the  
20 reporter as follows:

21 Q. Just so I make sure I understand  
22 this.

23 So with the Mississippi AccuVote TSX  
24 machines that you described earlier, those  
25 machines had an issue where sometimes the

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1 voters' choices would not be recorded on the  
2 actual paper receipt that got spit out  
3 after voting?)

4 THE WITNESS: The way that paper trail  
5 works, there's a security strip. And after  
6 the choices are printed, it rolls up into  
7 the canister. And it clicks. The voters  
8 can hear it.

9 If the printer jams, then that doesn't  
10 happen. And there is no noise. There is no  
11 indication. And if a voter didn't notice it  
12 then, no, their choices were not printed.

13 BY MR. POWERS:

14 Q. Could you describe the kind of paper trail  
15 that was generated by these machines?

16 A. A sequential record.

17 Q. What did the sequential record look like on  
18 the paper itself?

19 A. I'm trying to give you an example.

20 There's a window about two inches by  
21 six inches, maybe, and it would print their  
22 selections, you know, for this race you voted for  
23 this person. It would roll up. If it was two  
24 wanting to fit in that window, you'd have to confirm  
25 each print as it went.

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1 If you changed your mind, it would print out  
2 a notation saying the previous record shouldn't be  
3 counted for a recount. And then it would start  
4 printing again when you got to that final summary  
5 screen.

6 Once you confirmed it, it would roll up in  
7 the security canister completely. And that's it.

8 Q. In contrast, Georgia does not have a paper  
9 trail on the DRE voting machines that are currently  
10 in use; correct?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. So you worked for -- at KSU. You worked at  
13 the Mississippi Secretary of State's Office. After  
14 that you moved to Bartow County?

15 A. Mm-hmm. Excuse me, yes.

16 Q. What year was that?

17 A. 2007.

18 Q. 2007.

19 What position did you take with the Bartow  
20 County Board of Elections?

21 A. Elections supervisor.

22 Q. And you've held that role ever since?

23 A. I have.

24 Q. What responsibilities do you have as  
25 elections supervisor in Bartow County?

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1 A. In Bartow County, the board that I serve is  
2 the election superintendent as well as the chief  
3 registrar for county.

4 By the local -- (incomprehensible) -- of the  
5 board, I'm their -- I'm the secretary of that board  
6 and their administrative designee to take care of  
7 their day-to-day office matters.

8 THE REPORTER: Secretary of that  
9 board and?

10 THE WITNESS: Their administrative  
11 designee to take care of day-to-day office  
12 matters. I'm also department head for  
13 Bartow County.

14 Anything relating to voter registration  
15 and elections for Bartow County is my  
16 responsibility.

17 BY MR. POWERS:

18 Q. Have you received trainings or  
19 certifications in the election administration field?

20 A. I'm certified through the State of Georgia  
21 as required by law. I do not hold any other  
22 professional certifications for elections.

23 Q. Have you served in any different roles at  
24 the state level with respect to elections  
25 administration?

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1 A. No. My role was steady while I was at the  
2 Secretary of State's Office for Mississippi. And  
3 while I was here, if you consider my work for the  
4 Center at the state level, which I guess you could  
5 argue either way, no, I was pretty much just a  
6 tester. When I was out in the field, that's what I  
7 did.

8 Q. When you were out in the field with the  
9 Center for Election Systems?

10 A. Yes. Exactly.

11 Q. What's your role with respect to  
12 implementing the use of voting machines in Bartow  
13 County for elections today?

14 A. I'm not sure how to answer that question.  
15 It is my role to implement voting machines for the  
16 next system.

17 Q. Let's talk about the current system first.

18 A. Okay.

19 Q. On a day-to-day level, what are you doing  
20 with respect to -- or what might you do to -- with  
21 respect to implementing voting machines so that they  
22 are functioning on election day?

23 A. Again, I'm not sure of your question. The  
24 current system has been implemented. Are you asking  
25 what I would do --



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1 Q. Fair enough. I'll rephrase the question.

2 With respect to the maintenance and  
3 preparation of voting machines for elections, what  
4 are you doing on a day-to-day level with respect to  
5 the current DRE machines?

6 A. There are certain maintenance procedures  
7 that we go through. Charging batteries is the one  
8 that comes to mind. We make sure they stay secure.  
9 I have a staff member who is charged with these  
10 duties. This is part of her regular job of making  
11 sure these maintenance duties are performed. We also  
12 charge the express polls. We charge the optical  
13 scanners. That's pretty much it.

14 I haven't necessarily had a machine repaired  
15 in a very long time because it's more cost effective  
16 just to buy another one.

17 Q. How many voting machines does -- strike  
18 that.

19 How many DRE voting machines does Bartow  
20 County currently have?

21 A. Just under 250. I couldn't rattle off the  
22 number off the top of my head but right around there.

23 Q. How frequently do you have to buy new  
24 machines to replace old ones?

25 A. Not often. We've been very fortunate here

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1 that machines haven't had mechanical defects at a  
2 high enough level to justify buying a lot of them.  
3 Not to mention, I've been trying not to buy machines  
4 for quite a few years in anticipation of a new voting  
5 system. Why spend money on something that's about to  
6 go out?

7 Q. Sure, sure.

8 Let's say for a typical election that would  
9 have occurred before this transition to the new BMDs  
10 was taking place, so, say, 2012 or something like  
11 that. How many new machines might you order for a  
12 typical election in a situation like that?

13 A. Like I said not many. The system has done  
14 well for me, so...

15 Q. Does that mean like two or five?

16 A. No. I mean, I can't remember the last time  
17 I actually ordered a machine from the manufacturer.

18 There was one instance a year or two ago  
19 where another county purchased machines from another  
20 state and asked if anybody wanted their old machines.  
21 I went and got them.

22 They were tested. And that's something in  
23 our inventory in that I didn't have to worry about  
24 machines last year for the higher turnout.

25 Q. And how many optical scanners does Bartow

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1 County currently have?

2 A. That's a good question, actually.

3 I think six, but two are broken.

4 Q. Got it.

5 Do you also try to have broken optical  
6 scanners replaced as opposed to having them fixed?

7 A. No. Those have done pretty well for me.  
8 There was a time, I can't remember how long ago, when  
9 those optical scanners weren't produced anymore and  
10 we went ahead and bought a couple then. And that's  
11 gotten us by until now.

12 Q. When was that?

13 A. That, I couldn't tell you. I do not recall.

14 Q. How many optical scanners did you buy?

15 A. I believe two.

16 Q. Did you buy new optical scanners or used?

17 A. Those would have been new. Those would have  
18 been new.

19 Q. Did you buy them directly from the  
20 manufacturer?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And who's the manufacturer?

23 A. At the time, I'm not sure. I mean,  
24 originally, it was global. Then it was Diebold. And  
25 then it was Premier. Global was before my time. But

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1 at what point in the process we were at when I  
2 purchased those, I'm not sure.

3 Q. Mm-hmm, got it.

4 Do you recall roughly how much those optical  
5 scanners cost?

6 A. I do not.

7 Q. Did you look into whether you could buy them  
8 used?

9 A. At the time, there was a prohibition on  
10 buying used equipment.

11 Q. And that prohibition was a state law?

12 A. Yes, or a rule from the Secretary of State's  
13 Office.

14 Q. Got it. Is there currently a prohibition on  
15 buying used optical scanners?

16 A. No. There is not.

17 Q. Today would you -- you mentioned you had a  
18 couple of broken optical scanners.

19 If you wanted to replace them, would you  
20 look at buying used optical scanners?

21 A. I'm not sure where I could.

22 Q. Would you say that you're the primary person  
23 in the Bartow County elections office responsible for  
24 ensuring that the DRE voting system functions  
25 properly?

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1 A. Yes. The way I see it, I'm responsible for  
2 everything my office does.

3 Q. How many other employees are there in the  
4 Bartow County office?

5 A. Four full-time employees and numerous,  
6 numerous temporary employees.

7 Q. For a typical election, how many temporary  
8 employees do you hire?

9 A. I need you to be more specific.

10 Q. Fair enough. Let's take the 2018 election  
11 in November. Could you please tell me about the  
12 temporary employees that you would hire for an  
13 election like that?

14 A. I can't think of how many we hired for that  
15 election off the top of my head. Around 150, I would  
16 think. More than we normally get for gubernatorial  
17 elections.

18 Q. What are the responsibilities of the  
19 part-time employees that you hire?

20 A. That all depends what I hire them for. Can  
21 you be more specific?

22 Q. What different things might you hire  
23 part-time employees for?

24 A. Work as poll workers. To work as  
25 transporters. To work in the office on general sort

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1 of paperwork or filing tasks. Pretty much everything  
2 that we do.

3 Q. Who is responsible for testing the DRE  
4 voting machines?

5 A. The primary individual is Beth Howard who is  
6 my electronic voting machine technician. She  
7 performs those duties under my direction. And then  
8 if she needs help, we get her however much help she  
9 needs, whether that's someone with a strong back to  
10 move machines around and set them up for her or  
11 people that are there actually helping with the test.

12 Q. Let's go back to the example of the November  
13 2018 election.

14 . . . How far in advance of the November election  
15 do you start making preparations with respect to  
16 getting the voting machines ready?

17 A. We'll usually start testing at least two or  
18 three weeks before advance voting starts if at all  
19 possible.

20 Q. Can you take me through the process of what  
21 happens with respect to testing the machines?

22 A. Well, I can do my best. It's been a while  
23 since I've performed those tests from start to finish  
24 on all the machines.

25 But the first step is to make sure that all

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1 the machines are physically sound; the legs are  
2 operational, the case is in good shape, that sort of  
3 thing.

4 After that, machines are turned on. The  
5 software versions are verified -- numerous software  
6 versions are verified, actually.

7 Then there's a test to make -- or a series  
8 of tests to make sure the hardware functions properly  
9 so that the external peripherals, the card reader,  
10 the printer, the screen.

11 The screens are calibrated. If it's an R6,  
12 the TSX's screens are not necessarily calibrated.

13 And then you test the ballot to make sure  
14 the ballot is -- ballot counts properly.

15 So for each person on the ballot, you check  
16 their name off; make sure that transfers to the  
17 summary screen. Then the machine is tested to make  
18 sure it counts accurately.

19 Then it's turned off. Sealed up -- assuming  
20 it passed all those tests, turned off, sealed up and  
21 the proper paperwork is filled out and it's not  
22 unsealed again until election day.

23 Q. And --

24 A. Oh, excuse me. Last step is to reset the  
25 counter to zero and prepare for election day.

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1 Q. Thank you.

2 What happens if a machine doesn't pass the  
3 test?

4 A. It depends the reason it didn't pass the  
5 test. If say the printer just didn't work, you know,  
6 we can't send that machine out. On an R6 unit, we  
7 can't replace the printer. So that will be set aside  
8 and we'll save the case to use on a different machine  
9 when the case breaks.

10 If it's a case issue, then we fix it and put  
11 the machine back into service.

12 Q. How frequently does something like that  
13 happen?

14 A. That one is fairly frequent. The legs have  
15 a tendency to be fragile especially as they get  
16 older. So if a leg breaks, of course, we need to  
17 replace that leg. If a proxy panel is cracked, we  
18 need to replace that. There's probably a few each  
19 election that she has to go through and repair.

20 Q. And --

21 A. To be clear, when I say "repair," I mean the  
22 cases not machines themselves.

23 Q. Right. So you might be, for example, fixing  
24 a broken leg or putting a new privacy panel on?

25 A. That's correct.



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1 Q. Thank you.

2 And who does those repairs?

3 A. Either myself or Beth.

4 Q. Where do you get the -- strike that.

5 How much time does it take to replace a  
6 privacy panel or fix a broken leg?

7 A. Fifteen minutes, maybe. It's not too bad.

8 Q. In the event that it's close to an election,  
9 is there anyone other than you or Beth who might  
10 be -- sorry -- Ms. Howard who might be working on the  
11 machines?

12 A. Not usually, no. We usually have enough to  
13 worry that if -- one machine is not going to stop us.

14 Q. How much time does it take to complete --  
15 well, strike that.

16 How much time does it take all total to  
17 complete testing on one DRE voting machine?

18 A. That's very much dependent on the tester,  
19 but I would say on average 15 to 20 minutes.

20 Q. How much time does it take to test all of  
21 the 250 machines for an election such as the November  
22 2018 election?

23 A. That, I couldn't tell you. The reason is  
24 people have other jobs besides just testing voting  
25 machines.

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1 In a large election, using, say, the last  
2 years as an example, November 2018 I, might have to  
3 pull employees to go help with the voting because the  
4 line is around the building and we need to focus on  
5 that and prioritize the current issue.

6 If she was able to just focus on that, I  
7 have no idea. A lot faster, I'm sure.

8 Q. Fair enough.

9 Sort of -- I'll rephrase the question.

10 What period of time in terms of days or  
11 weeks does it take to complete the testing of the 250  
12 voting machines?

13 A. I would be surprised if it takes longer than  
14 two or three weeks to complete. But that's her  
15 moving at a very leisurely pace because we try to  
16 give her enough time, so she can take the time she  
17 feels she needs to to make sure things are working  
18 for election day.

19 Q. Going back, when did Bartow County begin  
20 using the current DRE voting system?

21 A. At the same time as the rest of the state.

22 Q. When was that?

23 A. That one I should actually know because I  
24 was working at the time. Was it 2002 or so? 2003.  
25 Somewhere around there. I can't remember when that

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1 version was completed.

2 Q. Somewhere in the 2002 to 2003 period?

3 A. Right.

4 Q. Do you know what voting system Bartow County  
5 was using before they moved to the current DRE  
6 machine system?

7 A. Optech Eagles. Optech Eagles. O-P-T-E-C-H  
8 Eagles.

9 Q. Could you explain to me what that is?

10 A. Well, the system they had when I got here --  
11 in storage when I got here was a precinct based paper  
12 ballot scanner. It's the one where you complete the  
13 arrow to vote.

14 Q. Could you explain what that means, complete  
15 the --

16 A. I'm not sure how else to say that. There  
17 was a partial arrow that you completed to vote. I  
18 mean, it is what it is.

19 Q. By hand?

20 A. Excuse me? Yes.

21 Yes, they were hand marked and they were not  
22 HAVA compliant.

23 Q. How are they not HAVA compliant?

24 A. They didn't offer a second chance to voters  
25 that overvoted or there was another problem with the

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1 ballot; it couldn't be scanned.

2 Q. Just to make sure I'm clear, what does HAVA  
3 require with respect to offering voters a second  
4 chance to complete a ballot?

5 A. That, if there is an undervoted race or an  
6 overvoted race that they are notified prior to  
7 casting the ballot.

8 Q. Thank you.

9 Do you know how long that voting system was  
10 used for?

11 A. No. I do not.

12 Q. Under the Optech system, was Bartow County  
13 using optical scanners for -- for scanning paper  
14 ballots?

15 A. Yes. They were precinct based ballot  
16 scanners.

17 Q. Just to make sure I'm clear, you weren't at  
18 the Bartow County Board of Elections when the Optech  
19 system was in place?

20 A. No. I was at the Center for Election  
21 Systems.

22 Q. Got it. Did you have any experience  
23 firsthand working with county election officials who  
24 were implementing the Optech system?

25 A. That system specifically, no, and very

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1 little for anything else.

2 Q. Let's switch gears.

3 What is Bartow County's election calendar  
4 for 2019?

5 A. As of right now we have municipal elections  
6 in November. I couldn't tell you which  
7 municipalities are having elections yet. It all  
8 depends on their election cycle and, frankly, who's  
9 running.

10 Q. Are there any county level elections planned  
11 for November?

12 A. There's nothing scheduled right now.

13 Q. What is Bartow County's election calendar  
14 for 2020?

15 A. The same as the rest of the state's. As of  
16 right now, I don't know of any special elections.

17 Q. Let's talk about the March presidential  
18 primary election for a second.

19 Do you know whether any races beyond the  
20 presidential primary itself are going to be on the  
21 ballot on the March 24th, 2020 election date?

22 A. I can't think of anything.

23 Q. In a situation like a presidential primary,  
24 would there only be one ballot style?

25 A. As long as that's the only race on the

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1 ballot -- well, yes. This year yes. Otherwise,  
2 you'd have us splitting parties.

3 Q. Let's -- you had mentioned some  
4 municipalities will likely be holding elections this  
5 coming November?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Let's talk about -- well, first, what voting  
8 system will Bartow County municipalities be using for  
9 the November 2019 elections?

10 A. The new system the State is planning on  
11 purchasing or is in the process of purchasing right  
12 now.

13 Q. In past municipal elections, what voting  
14 systems were the Bartow County municipalities using?

15 A. How far back?

16 Q. Fair enough. I'll rephrase the question.

17 In the 2017 elections -- strike that.

18 In any municipality elections in 2015 and  
19 2017 what voting systems did Bartow County  
20 municipalities use?

21 A. The same system as the county does, the DRE  
22 voting system.

23 Q. How long have municipalities in Bartow  
24 County been using the current DRE voting systems?

25 A. Since before I got here. When I arrived in

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1 Bartow County, they were -- we had contracts from all  
2 the cities for them to utilize our equipment. We  
3 programmed it. We tested it. We trained them on how  
4 to use it and then we tabulated the results for them.

5 About halfway through my time here I started  
6 getting contracts from municipalities to conduct  
7 elections on their behalf.

8 THE REPORTER: To what?

9 THE WITNESS: To conduct the elections  
10 on their behalf. So that, frankly, it's too  
11 much for a city clerk to keep track of, to  
12 do it properly, and it's easier for us to do  
13 it for them.

14 And that's the documents you have there  
15 is all the contracts with the cities that  
16 specify who's responsible for what.

17 BY MR. POWERS:

18 Q. Why is it too much for a city clerk to do  
19 the elections properly themselves?

20 A. Well, this is a year-round job for me. This  
21 is my career. City clerks have a multitude of  
22 responsibilities beyond just elections. And to ask  
23 them to have every bit of knowledge that I do to do  
24 my job on top of all their other responsibilities, I  
25 think is asking a lot of them. And it's for the

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1 benefit of the voters for us to do it correctly.

2 Q. I know you know all of this. Help explain  
3 to me the pieces of knowledge that city clerks would  
4 need to know to run an election themselves using the  
5 current DRE machines.

6 A. Not to be flippant, but all the training on  
7 how to use the system and Title 21 of the Georgia  
8 Code.

9 Q. That would require a substantial body of  
10 knowledge; correct?

11 A. I believe so. Yes.

12 Q. What responses did you receive from city  
13 clerks when you started working as elections  
14 supervisor and the clerks were running the elections  
15 themselves?

16 A. A lot of questions. A lot of problems. A  
17 lot of, This just happened, what should I do? Even  
18 getting supplies from me. Things like that.

19 There was an SEB case from one of our cities  
20 because they assumed that the poll workers that I  
21 used came pre-trained when they hired them and  
22 weren't actually trained. They're poll workers.  
23 Things like that.

24 Q. And so in this SEB case, the municipality  
25 hadn't trained the poll workers in advance of the



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1 election?

2 A. No. They just -- you trained them last  
3 November so obviously they're still trained.

4 Q. Oh --

5 A. Like I said, it's a lot easier if I just go  
6 ahead and do it for them.

7 Q. Is it fair to say that the technical aspects  
8 of maintaining and troubleshooting issues with DRE  
9 machines prove to be a problem for at least some of  
10 the city clerks with whom you are working?

11 A. No. They all understood how to use the  
12 machines pretty well. Their role in that process  
13 wasn't to do much besides turn them on like a poll  
14 manager does on election day or during advance  
15 voting.

16 The issues they faced were very much legal  
17 issues and procedural issues not the technology.

18 Q. Okay, okay. That's helpful.

19 So how long has Bartow County been running  
20 elections on behalf of the municipalities?

21 A. Well, let me correct something I said wrong  
22 the first time. Since I've been here, we've always  
23 done it for the city of Cartersville.

24 The other cities, the earliest contract on  
25 this list is 2011. The latest is 2017.

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1 Q. What elections -- sorry. Strike that.  
2 What municipalities does Bartow County  
3 conduct elections for.

4 A. Adairsville, Cartersville, Emerson,  
5 Euharlee, Kingston, Taylorsville and White.

6 Q. How many polling places -- strike that.  
7 Do each of these municipalities have a  
8 single polling place for their municipality  
9 elections?

10 A. Cartersville has two. Everyone else has  
11 one. And those are all combined with the county  
12 voting places.

13 Q. Do the municipalities hold in-person early  
14 voting?

15 A. As a general rule, yes. The way we've  
16 interpreted that statute is once they sign a contract  
17 with us, their advance voting site automatically  
18 shifts to my office.

19 The way -- there's a main site. The way we  
20 charge for that -- and this is how I got them to sign  
21 these contracts -- in a lot of ways, it's cheaper for  
22 them. We charge them on a sliding scale. So however  
23 many -- you know, a percentage of the polling voters  
24 that show up at my office, that's their percentage of  
25 the cost of those employees.

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1           Some cities will go ahead and pay for an  
2 additional week for advance -- or a week of advance  
3 voting a week prior to the election at their  
4 municipal polling place. The majority of them do not  
5 because there was not enough turnout to justify it.

6           Q. Got it. Let's break that down.

7           Let's say municipal elections in 2015.  
8 There was an advanced early voting location at the  
9 Bartow County BOE office?

10          A. Mm-hmm. Excuse me, yes.

11          Q. Thank you. Which municipalities had their  
12 own early voting locations?

13          A. In 2015? First, I can't remember which  
14 municipalities had elections in 2015 off the top of  
15 my head. Cartersville would have for sure.  
16 Adairsville would have for sure if they had an  
17 election.

18                 Euharlee has had advanced voting  
19 consistently. Taylorsville does not. Kingston does  
20 not. White does, but I don't think in 2015 I did  
21 their elections. They would have done that for  
22 themselves.

23                 Who am I missing off that list? I just said  
24 six. So Adairsville, Cartersville -- oh, Emerson  
25 does.

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1 Q. How long is that early voting period for --  
2 well, strike that.

3 Let's talk about 2019 for example.

4 How long will the advance in-person early  
5 voting period be before the November 2019 municipal  
6 elections?

7 A. It's the period set by law, three weeks. We  
8 won't do a Saturday voting day for municipal  
9 elections, but besides that, it's the same as any  
10 other election.

11 Q. Got it. Got it.

12 Will the Bartow County Board of Elections be  
13 hiring temporary staff for assisting with the conduct  
14 of municipal elections?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Typically, how many temporary employees does  
17 Bartow County hire for a municipal election cycle?

18 A. For every municipality? For every location?  
19 Three hundred and fifty or sixty assuming that no one  
20 serves in more than one capacity.

21 Q. And that includes poll workers?

22 A. Yes. That is poll workers.

23 Q. When do municipalities need to start  
24 preparing ballots for the November municipal  
25 elections?

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1 A. Would you clarify what you mean by  
2 "preparing ballots"?

3 Q. When do you need to know -- need to start --  
4 strike that.

5 When will you start building the ballots for  
6 the November municipal elections?

7 A. During the qualifying period -- and we'll  
8 start from there. I couldn't rattle off what that is  
9 off the top of my head -- they will send me their  
10 qualifying paperwork as it happens because I need  
11 to -- they retain their qualifying duties as part of  
12 that contract, but they have to use my office to  
13 verify the perspective candidates' eligibility for  
14 voter registration.

15 So they send me that paperwork then. And  
16 I'll start creating the paperwork -- I can't remember  
17 how they do that now. Either I file a form to send  
18 into the Center or send the paperwork directly.  
19 Usually, I think, it's a form.

20 And by the end of the process, I can tell  
21 them -- excuse me. At the end of the process I send  
22 them all that information. And then a little while  
23 later, I get the information to proof for the  
24 database.

25 Q. So let's go back to the 2015 municipal

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1 elections, which on the -- we're on the current DRE  
2 machines.

3 Can you take me kind of through the timeline  
4 as best you know in terms of starting with  
5 the candidate qualifying period and then going  
6 through your preparations to election day?

7 A. Well, so candidate qualifying period. At  
8 the end of the candidate qualifying period, we send  
9 the information to the ballot builder.

10 A little after that, we got the information  
11 back in to proof. Proofed it. Sent the sample  
12 ballot to the city clerks to double check for me.  
13 Sent the order to the printer to get the ballots  
14 printed.

15 Around the time those came back in is when  
16 L&A would have been up and running and the ballots  
17 would have been tested as well.

18 L&A wouldn't have taken too long for that  
19 number of machines. Now, in 2015 there may have been  
20 a county-wide election; I'm not sure. I don't try to  
21 memorize that stuff.

22 And then after everything is tested and  
23 allocated, transport the stuff to the different  
24 polling places as needed, train the poll workers  
25 throughout this process, that usually starts a month

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1 or two ahead of the election because there's a lot of  
2 training to be done.

3 Q. When you say a month or two ahead of the  
4 elections --

5 A. Now, for a municipal not that far ahead.  
6 But for a big election, yeah, a month or two ahead we  
7 start training poll workers.

8 Q. That would be a month before the start of  
9 in-person early voting?

10 A. I'm basing off election day. We don't want  
11 to start training them too early, but at the same  
12 time, we have to have enough time to get all the  
13 classes in.

14 A little while back I set a cap to my class  
15 sizes, so that has greatly increased the number of  
16 sessions we have to do. So we have to back up that  
17 far.

18 Q. What are you training these poll workers out  
19 of these sessions?

20 A. It depends the session. We have one  
21 specifically for advance voting, one new employee  
22 class -- and I'm not sure all this was in place in  
23 2015. But I as it stands right now, advance voting,  
24 a new employee class, a basic core class for folks  
25 who don't have any special duties, they just need the

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1 statutory training to do their jobs.

2 A comprehensive class for the managers that  
3 sometimes is broken into two parts. It goes into  
4 depth of everything. And then an express poll class  
5 for people who need to know how to operate the  
6 express polls.

7 Q. How much of that training involves getting  
8 poll workers up to speed on using the DRE voting  
9 machines?

10 A. The only session that doesn't cover in any  
11 way, shape or form is probably that express poll  
12 class. Every other class covers it in some way,  
13 including security, paperwork that goes along with it  
14 and then the comprehensive class for the people that  
15 are in charge goes into some of the troubleshooting  
16 and things like that.

17 Q. Turning back to building the ballots for the  
18 municipal elections. I have a question about the  
19 method of elections in the municipalities.

20 Do each of the municipalities in Bartow  
21 County conduct elections at large?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Which municipalities have district elections  
24 in Bartow County?

25 A. The City of Cartersville has actual wards.



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1 And then if I remember correctly, the City of  
2 Kingston has elections by post number, but they might  
3 as well be at large because anybody can vote.

4 But just to point this out, every city is  
5 different, vastly different in how they are operated.  
6 Before every municipality election, I have to go back  
7 and look at all the stuff to make sure I'm doing it  
8 right for that city.

9 Q. What differences are there between the  
10 municipalities?

11 A. Whether they run at large or not.  
12 Districts. If the -- how a winner is declared, if  
13 it's plurality or majority. That's the big one,  
14 actually.

15 Q. Anything else?

16 A. That's all that springs to mind besides just  
17 how each city -- each -- (incomprehensible).

18 THE REPORTER: Each?

19 THE WITNESS: Each city has a life of  
20 its own, so it might not be in the charter  
21 but things are done slightly different, say  
22 the method of entry or where the poll is or  
23 how much employees need to sign up for  
24 different reasons.

25 BY MR. POWERS:

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1 Q. And in terms of ballot files, let's go  
2 through them, the municipalities quickly.

3 Is it fair to say that the City of White has  
4 a single ballot style for their municipality  
5 elections?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Would the same be true for the City of  
8 Taylorsville?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And the City of Adairsville would have a  
11 single ballot style?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. The City of Emerson has a single ballot  
14 style?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. The City of Euharlee has a single ballot  
17 style?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And you had mentioned Kingston has  
20 residential wards?

21 A. No. Each council member is assigned a post  
22 number, but it doesn't actually correspond to  
23 anything geographic. So that's one ballot style as  
24 well.

25 Q. And Cartersville would have difference

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1 ballot styles for each district; is that correct?

2 A. Well, I mean, that depends on whether or not  
3 that district is actually on that ballot. But they  
4 have more than one ballot style partially because  
5 they have more than one polling location.

6 Q. Cartersville has two polling places; right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Who is responsible for programming the  
9 ballots that will be used in municipal elections in  
10 Bartow County?

11 A. I utilize the services of the Center for  
12 Election Systems same as I do for any other election.

13 Q. Who at the Center for Election Systems do  
14 you work with with respect to preparing the ballots  
15 for municipal elections?

16 A. At this point, I'm not sure.

17 Q. Help me understand this.

18 I know that the Secretary of State took some  
19 responsibilities with respect to election  
20 preparations from the Center for Election Systems,  
21 but that doesn't extend to ballot preparation or  
22 is -- strike that.

23 Is the Center for Election Systems now in  
24 the Georgia Secretary of State's Office?

25 A. That's correct.

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1 Q. And I should have asked this question as  
2 well.

3 Has this always been the case that the  
4 Center for Election Systems programs the ballots for  
5 municipal elections in Bartow County?

6 A. Since I've been here, I've used their  
7 services. I can't tell you what happened before I  
8 got here.

9 Q. From your time working at the Center for  
10 Election Systems, do you have any knowledge in terms  
11 of whether the Center for Election Systems prepares  
12 all of their ballots inhouse or whether any of that  
13 work is outsourced to a vendor?

14 A. I have never heard of them outsourcing  
15 anything.

16 Q. Now, Bartow County is participating in a  
17 pilot program for the new ballot marking devices for  
18 the November 2019 election; correct?

19 A. Absolutely.

20 Q. You've spoken publicly about this; correct?

21 A. I have.

22 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 50 was marked for  
23 identification.)

24 BY MR. POWERS:

25 Q. I'm handing you what I'm marking for

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1 identification as Plaintiff's Exhibit 50.

2 What is Plaintiff's Exhibit 50?

3 A. This is an article from the Daily Tribune --  
4 I'm not sure what date it's published -- about House  
5 Bill 316 and the pilot project for the new voting  
6 system.

7 Q. Do you see you are quoted in the article?

8 A. Any particular place or just in general?

9 Q. Let's just look at the first page.

10 A. Okay.

11 Q. Have you had a chance to read it?

12 A. Oh, yes.

13 Q. Do you recall giving these quotes to a  
14 reporter for this article?

15 A. I do.

16 Q. Let's talk about, I guess, the timeline.

17 First, do you currently know what machines  
18 you're going to be receiving?

19 A. I have no idea. I know it'll be one of,  
20 well, a few different things, but I don't know what  
21 the State's decision will be on that.

22 Q. When did you find out that you were going to  
23 be participating in the pilot program?

24 A. For sure when the RFP was posted. I was  
25 approached before that asking if I'd be willing, but

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1 I didn't for sure until I saw my county on the list  
2 for the first phase of the project.

3 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 51 was marked for  
4 identification.)

5 BY MR. POWERS:

6 Q. I'm handing you what I'm marking for  
7 identification as Plaintiff's Exhibit 51.

8 A. Mm-hmm.

9 Q. In particular, I would like to direct your  
10 attention to -- I'm looking at the numbers at the  
11 bottom -- page 249.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Let's first talk about who's on this E-mail  
14 thread.

15 Who are the people other than yourself who  
16 are listed on the E-mail thread in Plaintiff's  
17 Exhibit -- on page 249 of Plaintiff's Exhibit 51?

18 A. So you just want the names of the people  
19 involved with the E-mail?

20 Q. Yes.

21 A. Deidre Holden. Janine Eveler. Richard  
22 Barron. Lynn Ledford. And myself.

23 Q. Who are those individuals?

24 A. They are election directors.

25 Q. Looking down at -- well, first, do you

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1 recognize these E-mails?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Do you recall sending and receiving --  
4 strike that.

5 You recall receiving these E-mails?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Is March 16th, 2019, on or about the time  
8 that you learned about the new pilot program?

9 A. Yes. That's the date on the E-mail.  
10 Somewhere around that time.

11 Q. Turning now to page 245.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Tell me about the nature of the conversation  
14 that you're having with -- well, first, do you recall  
15 sending and receiving these E-mails?

16 A. I do.

17 Q. Tell me about the E-mail exchange that  
18 you're having here with Ms. Ghazal and Ms. Carter.

19 A. Sara Ghazal is with the Democratic Party for  
20 the state of Georgia. She was informing me that they  
21 were planning on sending an attorney named Kendall  
22 Carter to observe our board meetings.

23 I respond saying that I was excited to hear  
24 that partially because with being part of the pilot  
25 project for the new system, I needed all the help I

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1 could get educating the public about the process and  
2 was planning on asking the party for help. So having  
3 someone there at the meeting was great news.

4 Q. Why is it important to educate the public  
5 about the new voting machines?

6 A. Because you don't want the first time  
7 somebody to see something is when they show up to use  
8 it in any election. You know, you want that process  
9 to go as smoothly as possible and a lot of that comes  
10 down to education, both the employees and the general  
11 public, on what to expect and what the process is  
12 going to be like. And it really helps crowd control  
13 on election day, not to mention not having to  
14 troubleshoot issues and things like that.

15 Q. What types of technical pieces do you need  
16 to employ to -- strike that.

17 What are the kinds of technical aspects  
18 about using the machines that you want voters to be  
19 aware of before election day?

20 A. I'm assuming you're talking about our new  
21 system that we're getting?

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. The answer depends on the system.

24 Q. Yeah, let's talk about the new machines.

25 A. Well, the two pieces -- well, three pieces



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1 of information that I really need the public to know  
2 about the new system is, one, that we have new  
3 equipment. Two, that they are going to -- where to  
4 put the piece of paper in, to expect it to come back  
5 to them and that's their chance to examine it. And  
6 then to make sure they cast their ballot before they  
7 leave and not wander out the door with it.

8 Q. Why would that be a concern?

9 A. Because if they wander out the door with it,  
10 I can't count it.

11 Q. Has Bartow County been making preparations  
12 for educating the public?

13 A. We have started, but I haven't gotten too  
14 far with that process yet mostly because I'm waiting  
15 to hear what the decision on the system is before I  
16 decide how to proceed.

17 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 52 was marked for  
18 identification.)

19 BY MR. POWERS:

20 Q. I'm handing you what I've marked for  
21 identification as Plaintiff's Exhibit 52. I'd like  
22 to focus just on the first page here.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. First, what is on pages 237 and 238 of  
25 Plaintiff's Exhibit 52.

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1 A. They are the minutes for the meeting for the  
2 Bartow County Board of Elections and Voter  
3 Registration from August 15, 2019 [sic].

4 Q. I'd like to direct your attention to Item  
5 No. 6.

6 A. Under which?

7 Q. Under the elections supervisor's report.

8 A. Okay.

9 Q. What is -- if you wouldn't mind reading Item  
10 No. 6 from the elections supervisor report.

11 A. 2019 voting system pilot project. Bartow  
12 County has been selected as one of the 12 counties to  
13 be part of the pilot program for the new voting  
14 machines. The new voting machines should be here in  
15 August/September just in time for the November  
16 general election.

17 Q. Is that still your current understanding of  
18 when the Bartow County Board of Elections will be  
19 receiving the new machines?

20 A. Yes. But that's not based on anything  
21 besides my own knowledge of the process and my best  
22 guess.

23 Q. What have you heard with respect to when the  
24 new voting system decision will actually be made?

25 A. The same time I've heard the entire process,

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1 mid-July.

2 Q. Once you find out what system is going to be  
3 used, what is your plan for implementing the new  
4 ballot marking devices for the November 2019  
5 election?

6 A. Honestly, I'm still working on it. It's  
7 going to be very dependent on what the Secretary of  
8 State's Office does with educational materials, how  
9 far I have to go creating my own.

10 The plan is -- and in another set of board  
11 minutes we discuss creating a committee of community  
12 leaders and stake holders to help push educational  
13 information out to the public.

14 This shouldn't be a hard process. It's just  
15 a matter of having it documented well, having a good  
16 script for folks to follow and getting all the help  
17 we can in pushing the message out.

18 Q. I'd like to direct your attention to  
19 page 240. I think it's the last page.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And in particular, to the item that says,  
22 New business.

23 A. Mm-hmm.

24 Q. Do you see where it refers to the voting  
25 machine committee?

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1 A. I do.

2 Q. Could you tell me -- well, first, if you  
3 could tell me what date is reflected in the minutes  
4 on page 239 and 240.

5 A. This is -- these are the minutes from the  
6 May 23rd, 2019 Bartow County Board of Elections and  
7 Voter Registration meeting.

8 Q. Thank you. Now, if you wouldn't mind  
9 telling me about your proposal to the board to  
10 establish a new voting machine committee.

11 A. Well, it's pretty much what I just  
12 described. It's -- the idea is to get community  
13 stake holders together, whoever we can think of from  
14 every segment of the community, to brainstorm and  
15 talk about the new voting machines; to give them  
16 educational materials to push out to the public they  
17 interact with. And then I'd like their feedback on  
18 other things we can do to make the process better.

19 And then, frankly, I plan on keeping that  
20 group together to use for future election things.  
21 It's a good way to get people together on new things  
22 and I hope I can keep them together afterwards.

23 Q. Let's talk a little bit about testing and  
24 preparation.

25 When you receive the new machines in August

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1 or September, what are you going to have to do to  
2 make sure that the machines are ready to be used in a  
3 real election?

4 A. I honestly don't know. I know what's been  
5 done in the past, but I do not know what -- I'm  
6 assuming they'll be tested before we get them. I'm  
7 assuming there will be testing we have to perform  
8 after we get them. If nothing else, there will be an  
9 L&A testing procedure prior to the election. Beyond  
10 that, those procedures haven't been written yet that  
11 I know of.

12 Q. Has the Secretary of State's Office told you  
13 anything about what you need to be doing with the new  
14 BMDs to get them ready for the November 2019  
15 election?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Has anyone else told you anything about what  
18 you need to do with the new BMDs ready for the  
19 November 2019 elections?

20 A. The only thing I can think of was -- I'm a  
21 regional facilitator for election officials in the  
22 state of Georgia. We're in Region 1. And all the  
23 other directors for Region 1 get together once every  
24 month or two to talk about topics of interest, we'll  
25 say.

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1 And we invited each major vendor to our  
2 meetings to see the machines. Those vendors may have  
3 made proposals for -- mostly this will be so easy to  
4 do here; this is all you have to do.

5 I didn't pay too much attention to those.

6 Q. You described this role as regional  
7 facilitator. Could you tell me a little more about  
8 that?

9 A. The counties in the state are broken up into  
10 different regions. And, honestly, I can't remember  
11 why that was originally done.

12 The way it works now, each region has a  
13 facilitator. And either they're used to push  
14 information from the Secretary of State's Office out  
15 to people. But, normally, it's just an opportunity  
16 for us to get together and talk about how things are  
17 going in our offices, best practices amongst each  
18 other; that sort of thing.

19 Different counties host each month. It's a  
20 good chance to get out of the office, see your peers  
21 and share information.

22 Q. Sure, sure.

23 So at some point your -- what counties are  
24 in your region?

25 A. That's a great question. The northwest

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1 portion of the state. I couldn't list them all for  
2 you.

3 Q. Fair enough.

4 A. If you -- (incomprehensible) -- I can  
5 probably tell you...

6 Q. Roughly, how many counties?

7 A. About a dozen.

8 Q. At some point a bunch of the vendors who  
9 currently have submitted RFPs for new BMDs came to  
10 one of these regional meetings to show off their  
11 various machines?

12 A. This was long before the RFP was ever sent  
13 out from the Secretary of State's Office. I  
14 approached them actually to come out and show us what  
15 they had mostly because I was curious about the new  
16 technology. It was a good excuse to get them out  
17 there.

18 Q. Roughly, when would this meeting have taken  
19 place?

20 A. Last year.

21 Q. 2018?

22 A. Yeah, I think so. It sounds about right.

23 Along the same time as the safety commission meetings  
24 and all that.

25 Q. That was before House Bill 316 had been

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1 adopted; right?

2 A. Absolutely.

3 Q. It might not have been talking about --  
4 strike that.

5 So implementation of new BMDs for the 2019  
6 election would not have been a subject that would  
7 have been on the agenda list for a 2018 meeting with  
8 vendors; correct?

9 A. Not necessarily. We may have discussed, you  
10 know, what they thought the timeline would be once  
11 the selection was made; that sort of thing.

12 I think I always expected there would be  
13 some kind of pilot project in 2019. Just common  
14 sense. But beyond that, no, we didn't talk about  
15 specifically municipal elections in 2019.

16 Q. What did the vendors tell you with respect  
17 to new legislation that -- regarding voting machines?

18 A. For the most part, they were very careful  
19 not to tell us what to say. They just encouraged us  
20 to make our opinions known to the legislature,  
21 whatever opinions may be.

22 Q. Did they provide any kind of educational  
23 materials to you in the course of that meeting?

24 A. Oh, no. When we brought them out, both  
25 sides were clear what our roles were. They never



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1 thought we had any role in that decision. They just  
2 thought we'd like to see what they had to offer.

3 Q. Earlier you had mentioned that educational  
4 materials might need to be created for the -- or  
5 related to the new ballot marking devices; correct?

6 A. No matter what you're doing, educational  
7 materials are always a good idea. So, yes, whatever  
8 new thing we do, we need to educate people on.

9 Q. New educational materials will need to be  
10 created for poll workers; is that correct?

11 A. Absolutely.

12 Q. And new poll workers -- sorry. Strike that.

13 New educational materials will need to be  
14 created for voters as well?

15 A. Absolutely. If you look back to any voting  
16 machine implementation, you'll see little postcards  
17 or something graphical to say, It's going to be okay,  
18 here's step by step what you're going to do just to  
19 demystify it before they go to the poll.

20 We can't get a machine in front of every  
21 single person for them to see it, touch it and play  
22 with it no matter how hard we try. We have to have  
23 stuff that people can carry around to educate them in  
24 some way.

25 Q. For these municipal elections that are

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1 coming up in 2019, what's the timeline going to be --  
2 strike that.

3 Have you already made a proposal for a  
4 certain number of voting machines and optical  
5 scanners in 2019?

6 A. You mean to be used for the polling places?  
7 For the specific --

8 Q. (Counsel nods head affirmatively.)

9 A. No. In fact, I need to go back and look at  
10 House Bill 316 because I'm not sure it actually  
11 mandates the number of machines per voter or not.  
12 The code section they updated was not necessarily in  
13 line with that law.

14 Q. So is it fair at this point to say that you  
15 don't know for certain how many new ballot marking  
16 devices you're going to need for the November 2019  
17 municipal elections?

18 A. I plan on using the same number as I would  
19 have used DREs. The process should be a similar  
20 enough that that logic works.

21 Q. So just make sure I'm following. So your  
22 plan right now is to order 250 ballot marking devices  
23 for the November 2019 municipal elections?

24 A. No. I'm not going to order anything. The  
25 numbers are in the RFP.

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1 Q. Fair enough.

2 So explain to me the process of how the RFP  
3 was -- strike that.

4 Explain to me the process of how the  
5 machines -- new ballot marking devices are going to  
6 be sent to and received by you for the November 2019  
7 elections?

8 A. It'll be sent by the State and they'll be  
9 received by me. And that's about as much as I know  
10 right now.

11 Q. Do you anticipate receiving approximately  
12 250 --

13 MR. MILLER: I'm going to object at that  
14 question at this point. You've asked the  
15 same form of this question about three or  
16 four different times. I think he's answered  
17 it.

18 BY MR. POWERS:

19 Q. You may answer.

20 A. In the RFP, it specifies a delivery  
21 schedule. I anticipate that's how they are going to  
22 be delivered. That's as much as I know.

23 MR. POWERS: I'd like to turn your  
24 attention back to --

25 THE REPORTER: Is this a good time for a

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1 break? It's been almost two hours.

2 (Discussion ensued off the record.)

3 (Recess from 11:43 a.m. to 12:43 a.m.)

4 BY MR. POWERS:

5 Q. Before we broke for lunch, we were chatting  
6 about the new -- the new devices and we were talking  
7 a little bit about how the implementation is going to  
8 go.

9 Do you have a point of contact with the  
10 Secretary of State with respect to the pilot program?

11 A. Not specifically to that. I have a point of  
12 contact through my liaison Lee, but beyond that no.

13 Q. Have you spoken with your liaison about the  
14 pilot program?

15 A. No. I have not. I did speak briefly with  
16 their training manager about it to -- you know, sort  
17 of an idea how the training is going to go, but that  
18 was a very vague conversation.

19 Q. What did you talk about?

20 A. The plan to train regions -- to break the  
21 state down that way and have multiple phases of  
22 training in each region. What those phases would be,  
23 I'm not sure.

24 Q. Are you going to be using any of the old DRE  
25 machines for the November 2019 elections?

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1 A. No.

2 Q. Who is paying for the equipment for the  
3 pilot program?

4 A. The State.

5 Q. Turning back to the news article -- it might  
6 have been Plaintiff's Exhibit --

7 A. -- 50.

8 Q. -- 50. And turning to the second page right  
9 at the very top, do you -- would you mind reading, I  
10 guess, the first sentence that starts on the first  
11 line of that page and reading through to the second  
12 paragraph?

13 A. The one that starts, And although?

14 Q. Yes, sir.

15 A. And although Kirk said the machines don't  
16 represent an unfunded mandate, he also said he  
17 expects the new equipment to saddle Bartow County  
18 with several ongoing maintenance and material costs.

19 Q. Could you please read the next paragraph?

20 A. With a purchase this size, we're counting on  
21 the Secretary of State to negotiate it, so it's a  
22 good price, both the initial purchase as well as any  
23 additional equipment we have to buy moving forward,  
24 he said. Until that negotiation happens, we really  
25 don't know what they're going to cost. I know

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1 that -- I know what the off-the-shelf cost are for  
2 the piece of equipment, but I hope we don't pay full  
3 sticker price.

4 Q. Thank you.

5 Do you remember giving this quote to the  
6 reporter for this article?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What are the -- strike that.

9 Could you please describe for me what types  
10 of ongoing maintenance and material costs there would  
11 be for the new devices?

12 A. Well, at this point this is speculation.  
13 Until the decision is made, until the contract is  
14 signed, all of that is still up in the air. The  
15 current system doesn't have any ongoing costs. We  
16 might get that lucky.

17 But for a paper based system, we have to buy  
18 paper. There could be an ongoing licensing  
19 agreement. That's part of negotiations I have no  
20 part in. And then ongoing costs similar to the  
21 existing equipment of just parts for it, you know,  
22 buying legs. And no matter what equipment you have,  
23 there will be parts that are consumable that have to  
24 be replaced.

25 Q. Just so I'm clear, under the new BMDs, the

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1 counties will be responsible for buying paper?

2 A. That's my --

3 MR. MILLER: I'm just going to go ahead  
4 and object here. I probably should have  
5 objected on the last one, but as long as  
6 we're talking about implementation, that's  
7 one thing. But we're starting to move into  
8 the operations of a new system that has not  
9 yet been procured. It's likely outside the  
10 specific knowledge of Mr. Kirk.

11 You know, I'm just going to notate it's  
12 outside the scope of discovery right now.  
13 Not relevant to the case. Not relevant to  
14 the claim in plaintiff's complaint.

15 THE WITNESS: And that's actually what I  
16 was about to say is without being part of  
17 those negotiations, without seeing that  
18 documentation, I'm not sure. I said to  
19 begin with it's all speculation.

20 BY MR. POWERS:

21 Q. When will the -- from your perspective, the  
22 Bartow County Board of Elections need to receive the  
23 new BMDs in time to get them tested and programmed  
24 and used for the November 2019 elections?

25 A. I need enough time to train a small -- at

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1 the bare minimum, time to test the equipment, train a  
2 small number of poll workers to use the equipment and  
3 get the people previous to those elections trained.

4 I anticipate the scope being larger than  
5 that, so I should have plenty of time, but I could do  
6 it in a month.

7 Q. Would that be a month prior to the start of  
8 early voting or a month prior to the actual November  
9 election date?

10 A. Well, if it's a month prior to the actual  
11 November election date, that only gives us -- that's  
12 not enough time to get the machines tested per law.

13 I can't give you a specific date to say as  
14 long as I have them by this date, I can make them  
15 work. What I can tell you is that I have full  
16 confidence in a small time frame I can implement this  
17 current -- the new system.

18 Q. That would be a month before early voting  
19 starts?

20 A. I mean, a month before early voting starts  
21 would give me enough time. I could probably do it in  
22 less than that.

23 Q. If the judge in this case were to order that  
24 hand-marked paper ballots were to be used scanned by  
25 the existing optical scanners equipment that's



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1 currently used for absentee and provisional ballots,  
2 how long in advance of the election would you need to  
3 know that in order to be able to implement it?

4 A. If we're talking about using our existing  
5 equipment in compliance with state and federal law, I  
6 don't have enough equipment to make that work and I  
7 could not procure enough equipment to make that work.

8 Just buying out the scanned system doesn't  
9 work. It has to be certified by the State. I do not  
10 know where to buy more optical scanners that are  
11 already certified, the type that are already  
12 certified.

13 Q. Have you looked into whether the Secretary  
14 of State or other counties have additional optical  
15 scanners?

16 A. To be clear, to make that work you need an  
17 optical scanner at every single polling place.  
18 That's -- well, including advance voting sites for me  
19 for that election -- well, for the November election  
20 we're talking about eight election day polling  
21 places, at least four advance polling places, so  
22 that's 12 right there. Those requirements would be  
23 the same for every county statewide. And I don't  
24 know of a single county that has enough equipment  
25 that can make that work nor do I know the State has

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1 enough equipment to make that work.

2 Q. Are you knowledgeable about the number of  
3 optical scanners in other counties in Georgia?

4 A. Not specifically, no.

5 Q. So you would need -- well, assuming every  
6 county holds an election --

7 A. Okay.

8 Q. -- you currently have four working optical  
9 scanners?

10 A. I believe so. I'd have to go back and  
11 double check because I only use two or three in a  
12 given election. So I think I have four optical  
13 scanners.

14 Q. To have onsite scanning at each polling  
15 place, you would need eight additional optical  
16 scanners?

17 A. For the November election this year, I  
18 believe so. My math may be wrong depending on who's  
19 having an election and if I'm thinking of all the  
20 correct polling places in my head.

21 Q. Can you use the same -- strike that.

22 Can you use optical scanners both for early  
23 voting, in person and also on election day?

24 A. We don't have any procedures in place to do  
25 that, but I would say no because we have a

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1 requirement that every polling place has to report  
2 their results and that's done by the machine.

3 So to share the machine between different  
4 polling places would be very problematic for that.  
5 Would you get a total count? Yes, but it would be in  
6 violation of state law.

7 Q. Would it be possible to do a central count  
8 in which ballots are stored onsite and then  
9 transported to the Board of Elections for scanning as  
10 is done, for example, with provisional ballots?

11 A. I guess you could for municipal elections  
12 because there's no federal requirements for those.  
13 For any other elections, no, because it'd violate  
14 law.

15 Q. But for municipal elections, you could do a  
16 central count at the Board of Elections office?

17 A. If that's what the City chose to do, yes, I  
18 guess I could do that. I guess that's how it used to  
19 be done, but I've never conducted an election that  
20 way.

21 Q. Let's -- strike that.

22 Is central count -- well, let's go back.

23 First, what is -- what does the term  
24 "central count" mean as you understand it?

25 A. Well, as I understand what you're

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1 describing, you would take the -- when the voter  
2 casts their ballot at the polling place, it'd be a  
3 paper ballot. They would hand mark. They would put  
4 it into a secured container, which would be under  
5 seal and then transported back to the office similar  
6 to how we transport memory cards for the current  
7 voting system.

8           Once they got back to the office, we'd need  
9 to put procedures in place to account for how many  
10 ballots are there; to ensure they are all counted  
11 once and only once; and to secure them in that -- you  
12 know, throughout that process.

13           I'm not sure how long that would take. The  
14 scanners we have are precinct based scanners not  
15 central count scanners. That's why you see results  
16 getting in so late on election night in some cases  
17 because you're having to feed them through one and at  
18 a time.

19           Once you have a decent size turnout in any  
20 way higher than the absentee turnout for a normal  
21 election, normal presidential and gubernatorial  
22 election, which is not that high around here, we'd be  
23 there until the wee hours of the morning trying to  
24 get those things counted if not until the next day.

25           Q. What is the typical turnout in the municipal

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1 election in Cartersville?

2 A. That is very much depending on how mad the  
3 population is. I've seen it be very, very low and  
4 I've seen it be decently high, say, getting up to 40  
5 to 50 percent of the turnout, just off the top of my  
6 head, of the regular registration depending on what's  
7 on the ballot.

8 Q. Fair enough. What is the registered voter  
9 population in Cartersville?

10 A. I couldn't tell you off the top of my head.  
11 Over 10,000 I think.

12 Q. And --

13 A. Now that I think about it, it may not have  
14 been Cartersville that got that high. It may have  
15 been another city in terms of percentage of turnout,  
16 but that could just be because Cartersville hasn't  
17 been upset in recent memory.

18 Q. Mm-hmm, fair enough. And -- but -- strike  
19 that.

20 What are the registered voter populations in  
21 the other municipalities --

22 A. I can't rattle it off. If you'd like, send  
23 me a request; I'll be happy to send you the numbers.

24 Q. Tell me about how long it takes to scan  
25 paper ballots through the optical scanners?

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1           A. A long time. If you get a good rhythm  
2 going, you can usually scan them about -- (witness  
3 rhythmically knocking on table). I'm not sure how to  
4 say this in a way you can do it -- at a decent speed  
5 until once's been folded too many times. It's got a  
6 stray mark on it. The paper got a little damp. And  
7 then you're trying to feed it through different ways  
8 to get the scanner to take it, so you don't have to  
9 go duplicate it.

10           It varies. But it is not a fast process at  
11 all, especially considering the age of those  
12 scanners. Those scanners predate the current voting  
13 system.

14           Q. How long did it -- strike that.

15           You use this optical scan system for  
16 scanning both absentee and provisional ballots; is  
17 that correct?

18           A. That's correct. Different scanners but the  
19 same process, the same equipment.

20           Q. How much time does it take to scan the  
21 provisional ballots?

22           A. Well, a lot less because there are a lot  
23 fewer of them. And that's usually done going into  
24 our certification meeting in a very calm manner.  
25 It's my permanent staff scanning those. They know

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1 what they are doing. They are sitting there and it  
2 doesn't take them too long. But, again, that's  
3 because you have maybe a few dozen provisional  
4 ballots for any given election and hundreds or  
5 thousands of absentee ballots.

6 Q. What was the total period of time in which  
7 it took to count the paper absentee ballots from,  
8 say, the November 2018 election?

9 A. I can't remember what time we started off  
10 the top of my head, but I know we opened early  
11 because I remember the bailiff being there and  
12 getting that process started early. And we still  
13 didn't stop until eleven o'clock, midnight; something  
14 like that. It's when we actually reported the  
15 results in for the final results of the state. But,  
16 again, I'd have to go back and look at that time  
17 exactly.

18 Q. Your recollection is that you reported the  
19 absentee ballot results around 11:00 p.m. or --

20 A. Somewhere around there.

21 Q. I'd like to switch gears.

22 What process does Bartow County have in  
23 place with respect to dealing with the election  
24 related complaints that the board receives from  
25 voters?

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1 A. That all depends on the complaint and the  
2 situation surrounding it.

3 After each election, I go through  
4 everything. And with these incident reports, you see  
5 are what -- is our catch-all documentation method.  
6 What we tell them is if you think I should know about  
7 this later -- they are usually pink -- do a pink  
8 sheet on it.

9 A lot of voter complaints come in that way.  
10 If they call me directly, I usually take care of them  
11 at the time they call me. And then after the  
12 election, I'll go over all the records and figure out  
13 kind of what the board needs to hear about. And I  
14 give them the complaints and the resolution if  
15 applicable. And that's usually where that stops.

16 Voters are always welcome to complain to the  
17 State or to an organization if they'd like to. I  
18 prefer that they come to me with their issues, so I  
19 can take care of them or try to do the right thing  
20 and make sure everybody has the chance to vote.

21 And beyond that, record everything and keep  
22 moving. Go to the poll the next election and make  
23 sure we're not doing the same thing again. Oh, and I  
24 might have to discipline employees as a result.

25 Q. Do you have to discipline employees from



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1 time to time?

2 A. Yes, as my employer does.

3 Q. What kind of employee infractions come up?

4 A. Well, everything from being late to work to  
5 having fights with fellow employees. I'm trying to  
6 think of a violation that you'd be interested in.

7 Anything to do with following the rules or  
8 procedures that we have in place. We have a  
9 temporary employee personnel policy, if they violate  
10 their policies, if they violate their training, then  
11 actions have to be taken.

12 Q. Do you or the Bartow County Board of  
13 Elections receive complaints from voters regarding  
14 their experiences voting on the current DRE machines?

15 A. I have in the past and I've submitted those  
16 to you.

17 Q. Do you -- have you received -- strike that.

18 For which elections have you received  
19 complaints from voters about problems with the DRE  
20 voting machines beyond the November 2018 election?

21 A. I can't list out for you every time I  
22 received a complaint off the top of my head. I  
23 apologize.

24 There was a traumatic upturn of those in  
25 2018. With everything in the media, folks were more

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1 likely to come to us with concerns, which I  
2 appreciate. I can't address them until I know about  
3 them.

4 But before that, I couldn't tell you. The  
5 bigger the election, the more complaints we receive  
6 just as a general rule.

7 MR. POWERS: I'm handing you what I've  
8 marked for identification as Exhibit 53.

9 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 53 was marked for  
10 identification.)

11 BY MR. POWERS:

12 Q. Let's start -- well, first, if you want --  
13 if you wouldn't mind just taking a second to thumb  
14 through it.

15 A. Is this everything I submitted to you for  
16 complaints with the last subpoena?

17 Q. Yeah. I'll represent that these are --

18 A. And computer issues, too.

19 Q. And let's start with the first page.

20 A. Okay.

21 Q. Do you recall receiving the complaint  
22 reflected on page 286 of Plaintiff's Exhibit 53?

23 A. I do.

24 Q. Who was the voter that wrote it?

25 A. Beatrice Lee Baker.

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1 Q. What date did she write it?

2 A. The document's dated November 2nd, 2018.

3 Q. What was the nature of Ms. Baker's letter?

4 (Witness reviewing document.)

5 THE WITNESS: Ms. Baker had an issue  
6 while she was voting that she wanted to  
7 write candidates' names in. And when she  
8 tried to write candidates in, she had to  
9 push the submit button more than one once.  
10 And when that happens there was a lag in the  
11 machine and it pushed the button that was  
12 about to appear, for lack of a better way of  
13 saying that, the next buttons underneath  
14 where that submit button is.

15 So it went to the next screen. And  
16 rather than trying to go back, she assumed  
17 that she'd have a chance to go back from the  
18 summary screen to write in her desired  
19 write-in names.

20 And when she got to the summary screen,  
21 again, there was a lag and the machine cast  
22 the ballot before she had a chance to go  
23 back. There was a lag so that the next  
24 button or view summary screen button became  
25 the cast ballot button before she saw it and

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1 the ballot was cast.

2 BY MR. POWERS:

3 Q. So Ms. Baker was not able to write in her --  
4 the write-in candidates that she wanted?

5 A. That's correct. And she went home. She  
6 thought about it. She decided that she really needed  
7 to tell somebody that, which again I appreciated.

8 She came into the office and sat with me  
9 personally. We went over everything. That's why I  
10 know exactly what happened after I read over this.

11 I told her that I was so sorry she didn't  
12 get to vote for the candidates she vote on, we can't  
13 give her another ballot and this is one I had to take  
14 to my board because she wanted to make sure they knew  
15 what happened.

16 Q. Got it. Got it.

17 So in a situation like this -- strike that.

18 So she came in during the early voting  
19 period?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Did she ask you if you would be able to,  
22 essentially, fix her vote and vote for the people she  
23 wanted to?

24 A. I don't think she asked me. She asked one  
25 of my employees, which is the end of her statement.

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1 And I believe he told her that.

2 Just to be clear, I couldn't help her  
3 because we can't get ballots back once they're cast.  
4 I could not retrieve that ballot for her to correct,  
5 cancel or redo.

6 Q. So at that point there's nothing that could  
7 be done with respect to Ms. Baker's ballot; correct?

8 A. That's why there's a sign on every voting  
9 machine in Georgia that says, Once you hit cast  
10 ballot, it's final, we can't get it back. I'm  
11 paraphrasing.

12 Q. Have you heard complaints similar to this  
13 one in the past?

14 A. Oh, yes. In fact, I was in the news for  
15 this in the 2018 election cycle. Not that one; a  
16 different news story.

17 We were having issues with -- there you go.  
18 We were having issues with the machines because of  
19 the age of the machines. That's what it was. There  
20 was a lag time to them. The calibration was more apt  
21 to shift on the screen which is the reports of vote  
22 clipping. That's what that was, was a calibration  
23 error.

24 Not to mention, folks -- because of all the  
25 media reporting about it -- they are more apt to

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1 blame the machine rather than their hand when, say,  
2 one finger touches the screen rather than the finger  
3 they intended.

4 MR. POWERS: You just referenced the  
5 news article. I'm going to hand you what  
6 I've marked for identification as  
7 Plaintiff's Exhibit 54.

8 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 54 was marked for  
9 identification.)

10 BY MR. POWERS:

11 Q. What is the title of this news article?

12 A. Old technology creating new problems with  
13 voting machines.

14 Q. Is this -- strike that.

15 What date is the news article?

16 A. October 25th, 2018.

17 Q. Is this the news article that you were  
18 referring to in the prior --

19 A. I believe this was the situation I was  
20 referring to. I believe this is a reprint of a  
21 different article than the ones that originally  
22 carried it, but yeah.

23 Q. And are you -- let's turn to the second  
24 page.

25 Do you recall -- well, first, let me know

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1 when you've had a chance to take a look at it.

2 (Witness reviewing document.)

3 THE WITNESS: Go ahead.

4 BY MR. POWERS:

5 Q. Do you see where you're quoted on the second  
6 page of Plaintiff's Exhibit 54?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Do you recall giving those quotes to a  
9 reporter for a news story?

10 A. I couldn't tell you which reporter it was,  
11 but yes.

12 Q. Would you mind reading the portion of the  
13 news article that quotes you?

14 A. This is a calibration error on the voting  
15 machines Kirk told CBS 46 News.

16 The thing to remember is this is older  
17 technology. These have been around since 2002.  
18 Remember PalmPilots? You had to calibrate the screen  
19 of a PalmPilot. The machines are no different.

20 Kirk says they calibrate every voting  
21 machine before it is used, but sometimes the machines  
22 need recalibration. He also says sometimes the  
23 voter's height can be a factor. Sometimes the  
24 screens are set at a certain angle. Depending on how  
25 tall you are, your view changes a little bit, says

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1 Kirk.

2 Kirk says the machine question was  
3 recalibrated Wednesday morning as soon as he heard  
4 about the issue. He also told voters to take their  
5 time. I know there is a long line, but don't feel  
6 rushed. That's your time with the machine. That's  
7 your time to make your voice heard, said Kirk.

8 Q. These quotes are accurate?

9 A. I'm assuming so.

10 Q. You refer to calibration error on the voting  
11 machines. Could you tell me more about what that  
12 calibration error is?

13 A. Like I said in the article, the machines --  
14 the screens on the machines function similar to the  
15 screens in PalmPilots. There's more than one layer  
16 to the screen. And how those layers interact when  
17 you touch them is how it determines where you're  
18 touching. So you have to tell the machine, When I  
19 touch here, this is what that is.

20 Over time that calibration drifts either  
21 because of the machine being physically moved -- and  
22 I'm not sure why, but sometimes dropping it will  
23 change the calibration -- or just over time with  
24 heavy use, it shifts. So you're always going to see  
25 more calibration errors in a high turnout election,



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1 which 2018 was, as opposed to a municipal election  
2 where we might get a few dozen voters in any given  
3 day.

4 Does that answer your question?

5 Q. Yes. Let's roll with it a little bit.

6 And I apologize if I might re-ask a question  
7 or two here, but I just want to make sure it's in a  
8 format that the court reporter can get down.

9 So you talked about -- is it fair to say  
10 that the effect of the calibration error is that  
11 when -- when the calibration is off, I hit candidate  
12 X, but instead candidate Y's name lights up?

13 A. That would be one example. I think a better  
14 way to say it would be when you touch one portion of  
15 the screen, the machine interprets it as touching  
16 another portion of the screen. It doesn't  
17 necessarily have to be for another candidate. It may  
18 be for -- and this is the one you don't hear about.

19 Let's say you're voting for candidate A and  
20 the calibration shifted up. When you touch  
21 candidate A, nothing happens at all.

22 And then folks naturally -- because of touch  
23 technology these days, people start touching around  
24 and all of a sudden it works. The only thing that's  
25 nefarious is if it's not the candidate's name.

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1 Q. Got it. Got it.

2 So the change in calibration means that --  
3 it can mean that clicking on one portion of the  
4 screen functionally means clicking on another portion  
5 of the screen; is that correct?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. Going back to what you said earlier with the  
8 current DRE machines, that can occur when a DRE  
9 machine is dropped?

10 A. It can or it can occur just with heavy use.  
11 That's why we calibrate them for every election to  
12 make sure going into that election, they are as  
13 accurate as we can get them.

14 . . . . And then if we need to go in and recalibrate  
15 them, that's not hard to do. So as soon as a voter  
16 tells us there's an issue, we go in and correct that  
17 issue. But if they don't tell us, we don't know to  
18 correct it. That's why I appreciate stories like  
19 this because it helped raise that awareness.

20 Q. You also mention here that -- strike that.

21 Let's take the November 2018 election.

22 Do you recall how many times a machine  
23 needed to be recalibrated over the course of that  
24 election?

25 A. Not off the top of my head. No dramatic

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1 number. A handful of times. But at any given  
2 location between advance voting location, maybe a  
3 machine or two on election day, it was really advance  
4 voting that was the issue.

5 Q. You mention that the voter's height can be a  
6 factor.

7 With respect to the voters trying to cast a  
8 ballot on a DRE machine, could you explain that to me  
9 a little bit?

10 A. I'm sorry. I have to use a visual aid for  
11 this one.

12 So let's say this is the screen in front of  
13 you. If you're sitting like you're sitting right now  
14 and you push forward on the screen, it's going to go  
15 this way. If you're standing and push forward on the  
16 screen, it's going to go that way.

17 So the underlying area that's actually  
18 according to touch, you're touching different  
19 portions based on your height. So we try to keep the  
20 screens at the same angle at all times and have  
21 someone sort of average height calibrate them. And  
22 that's the best we can do.

23 Q. So tell me how you became aware of this  
24 issue with respect to voters' heights impacting their  
25 experience attempting to click on the DRE machines?

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1 A. I honestly don't remember. I've been  
2 involved with a lot of testing on a lot of different  
3 levels and I'm six-foot-two.

4 So if someone a lot shorter than me  
5 calibrates something, I'm going to notice when I go  
6 test later that, wait, this is not going on here.

7 Q. Got it. So this is something you've noticed  
8 based on personal experience testing DREs machines?

9 A. Let's just say personal experience working  
10 with DRE machines.

11 Q. Okay. I apologize for paraphrasing. Please  
12 feel free to correct me if I'm not getting this  
13 right.

14 . . . . But the basic ideas is that if -- if a voter  
15 is very tall or very short and they're looking at the  
16 screen from a different vantage point, they might  
17 think that they are trying to press the screen for  
18 candidate A; and based on their high or low vantage  
19 point, they may actually be clicking higher or lower?

20 A. Right. And keep in mind that in most cases  
21 this isn't a problem. It's just input and feedback.

22 So in most cases, if they touch the name --  
23 let's say they touch toward the top of the box, touch  
24 the one on the top of it, they see they highlighted  
25 the wrong name. They deselect it or call someone

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1 over to help them deselect it and they instruct them  
2 how, then touch the right name realizing you touched  
3 lower that time.

4 Q. Mr. Kirk, if you wouldn't mind turning to  
5 page 287.

6 A. Are we done with this one now?

7 Q. Yeah, you can put -- what is it, 54? Put 54  
8 back in the pile.

9 A. What's the page number?

10 Q. Yeah. Let's turn back to -- I believe this  
11 is Exhibit 53 and page 287.

12 A. Okay.

13 Q. Could you first tell me the time and  
14 location of the incident reported on page 287?

15 A. This happened at my office during advance  
16 voting for the 2018 election on October 16th at 8:36  
17 in the morning.

18 Q. What is the nature of the incident  
19 description on this page?

20 A. A voter complained to the poll manager that  
21 she kept pressing the box over and over and over  
22 again to make the X show up. The manager instructed  
23 her that if she kept pressing the box over and over  
24 again, she was selecting it and then deselecting it  
25 and if she just took the time and let the X appear,

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1 that she would be in good shape.

2 That's where the incident report stops. I'm  
3 assuming that took care of her issue.

4 Q. Do you see that happen from time to time  
5 where voters have issues pressing on the screen?

6 A. Pressing on the screen or pressing on the  
7 screen the way it was described in the incident  
8 report?

9 Q. Let's talk about the way that's described in  
10 incident report.

11 A. No. I don't see that very often. Normally  
12 folks are pretty savvy on the voting system these  
13 days and knows how it operates.

14 That election, a lot of first-time voters,  
15 not to mention an aging voting system that  
16 exasperated existing issues like the lag time. I  
17 think that accounts for what's described here.

18 Q. Is it your perception that because the  
19 current DRE machines are aging, that there are more  
20 issues now than there used to be, say, 10 years ago?

21 A. I think that as anything gets older, with  
22 the exception of wine, you're going to see more  
23 issues with it.

24 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 55 was marked for  
25 identification.)

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1 BY MR. POWERS:

2 Q. I hand you what I've marked for  
3 identification as Plaintiff's Exhibit 55.

4 What is Plaintiff's Exhibit 55?

5 A. It's an article published in the Daily  
6 Tribune on October 27, 2018, that addresses a few  
7 different issues that the reporter had some questions  
8 about.

9 Q. What's the title of the article?

10 A. Election Supervisor Addresses Voting  
11 Concerns in Bartow.

12 Q. What is the date of the article?

13 A. October 27th, 2018.

14 Q. Could you please read for me the -- well,  
15 strike that.

16 Do you recall speaking with a reporter for  
17 this news article?

18 A. I do.

19 Q. Could you please read the first two  
20 paragraphs of the news article?

21 A. Bartow County elections supervisor Joseph  
22 Kirk admits the county's voting technology leaves  
23 much to be desired. But as outdated as the hardware  
24 may be, he nonetheless says residents shouldn't be  
25 worried about their ballots not being tallied.

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1 I'll be the first to say it, we need to  
2 update our voting system, he said. That being said,  
3 it is accurate; it counts votes properly. It is a  
4 system that does one thing and does it well. It  
5 counts votes.

6 Q. With respect -- well, strike that.

7 First, do you believe that the current  
8 voting system needs to be updated?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Why is that?

11 A. Because it's old. Because it's failing.  
12 They don't manufacture it anymore. I can't buy spare  
13 parts for it anymore. We need to update it.

14 Q. When you say "it's failing," what do you  
15 mean by that?

16 A. I mean, the specific -- the hardware  
17 components of the system are starting to wear out and  
18 cannot be replaced. So, say, a printer -- you know,  
19 every printer eventually is going to stop printing,  
20 even the ones on voting machines.

21 Q. Mm-hmm. You mentioned the -- let's talk  
22 about the hardware components. You mentioned the  
23 printer wearing out.

24 What's the function of the printer on the  
25 current DRE machines?



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1 A. To print information off the DRE machines.

2 Q. The current DRE machines don't have a paper  
3 trail?

4 A. No, but you still can get reports out of  
5 them.

6 Q. What kinds of reports do they print?

7 A. From a poll workers perspective, they print  
8 an opening report at the beginning of the day -- or a  
9 zero total report to demonstrate there's no vote that  
10 has been cast on the system at the time of opening.

11 And at the end of the day, they print summary total  
12 reports, which give a tally of votes per machine.

13 And then there's a function that we do not use to  
14 accumulate the votes in that polling place and print  
15 the accumulated totals for that polling place.

16 You can also print an audit log off those  
17 machines. You can -- there's a printer test page  
18 that prints to verify that everything works properly  
19 during L&A testing.

20 That's everything I can think of off the top  
21 of my head, but that's probably not an exhaustive  
22 list.

23 Q. Fair enough.

24 And you mentioned a -- that you can print  
25 accumulated vote totals off the machine; is that

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1 correct?

2 A. That's correct.

3 Q. But you don't print those out?

4 A. No. I think it's a useless step. If folks  
5 want to know the accumulative total of the polling  
6 place, they have a calculator on their phone.

7 Q. Fair enough.

8 So these printers are wearing out?

9 A. Well, yes. Not all of them, not at the same  
10 time, but hardware will eventually fail.

11 Q. And are there any other -- you mentioned  
12 hardware components. Are there other components that  
13 are wearing out?

14 A. Well, batteries are starting to wear out.  
15 That's why we have to charge them periodically to  
16 keep a charge on them. They're similar -- well, on  
17 one system they are similar to the battery in a car  
18 that needs a charge on it at certain points to keep  
19 it from failing.

20 The card reader, we had some issues with  
21 where you put the voter access card or the supervisor  
22 card in, either failing to retain the cards inside  
23 the machine and lock them in place or to read them.

24 Oh, and screens are starting to fail every  
25 once in a while.

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1 Q. I'd like to go back to talking about the  
2 voter cards that you just referenced.

3 Are these -- are you referring to the voter  
4 access cards?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. First explain for the record, if you don't  
7 mind, the function of the voter access cards.

8 A. A voter access card is -- I believe it's --  
9 the technology is called a smart card similar to the  
10 chips on credit cards these days -- the voter access  
11 cards are used to create -- well, to activate the  
12 machine with the proper ballot style for the voter  
13 and then to ensure the voter doesn't vote twice by  
14 clearing the card out or saying it's been used after  
15 the vote's cast.

16 Q. I think I might be -- you had mentioned  
17 something about the voter cards failing to retain  
18 information? Am I getting --

19 A. No, no. The machines failing to retain the  
20 voter access cards inside the machine. There's a  
21 lever that pops up to hold them there. The lever  
22 doesn't work.

23 Q. Is the voter access card inserted when the  
24 voter is casting the ballot?

25 A. The voter access -- so to vote on a voting

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1 machine in Georgia -- we'll just run through the  
2 voter's experience real quick.

3 You enter the poll. You fill out the  
4 paperwork. You show your ID. And then you go to an  
5 electronic poll book and express poll. That's where  
6 your eligibility is determined --  
7 (incomprehensible) -- that sort of thing.

8 At that point, once they determine  
9 eligibility --

10 THE REPORTER: Slow down.

11 THE WITNESS: -- they create a voter  
12 access card. I apologize.

13 And that's your ballot, per se, although  
14 it's not linked to you in any way. It's  
15 just basically a blank piece of paper.

16 You take that to a machine. Put it in.  
17 That activates the machine and it informs  
18 the machine what ballot style to display to  
19 you.

20 You vote your ballot. Review your  
21 ballot. And once you cast your ballot, the  
22 last thing that machine does before it  
23 ejects the card, it changes it from "not  
24 voted" to "voted."

25 Pops the card back out. And then you're

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1 supposed to take it to the poll worker, give  
2 it back and get a sticker.

3 BY MR. POWERS:

4 Q. Is the basic issue that you were talking  
5 about with the lever that it's hard to get the voter  
6 card in the machine because --

7 A. No, not -- I think you're thinking of the  
8 wrong kind of lever. I mean the lever a person uses.  
9 You put a card in the machine. A lever pops up  
10 behind it to hold it there, so it's just not popping  
11 up.

12 Q. What happens when the lever doesn't pop up?

13 A. The card pops back out and nothing happens;  
14 or if it's not been there long enough, it displays a  
15 small error message on the screen saying, Could not  
16 read card or card inserted improperly.

17 Q. At that point is the machine usable?

18 A. Absolutely. And sometimes what happens is  
19 they put it in too fast. Back when folks were used  
20 to going to an ATM and swiping their card, they pull  
21 it in and pull it out so fast that they couldn't  
22 retain it in there.

23 The poll worker would go over and say, Here,  
24 let me help you. Put it in here. Push it until it  
25 clicks. Okay, you're good. And they have a good

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1 experience from that point on.

2 Q. So is the issue just that -- so what's the  
3 impact ultimately of the lever not popping up and the  
4 voting card not being able to be inserted?

5 A. Potentially?

6 Q. (Counsel nods head affirmatively.)

7 A. I'm down a machine. That's it. It's not  
8 going to affect the voter's right to vote. It's not  
9 going to affect them being able to vote. It's not  
10 going to affect that the count on the machines -- if  
11 the machine dies, I can still get the votes off of  
12 it.

13 So the worse scenario there is I'm either  
14 down a machine in a polling place or during testing I  
15 have to swap it out and they can't use that machine  
16 for that election.

17 Q. Say in the November 2018 election, if a  
18 machine has to be taken offline, are you made aware  
19 of that?

20 A. Oh, absolutely. I'm usually informed as to  
21 everything going on technologically related on  
22 election day, if not when it happens, as soon as I  
23 get back to the office and touch base with everybody.

24 And then in most cases -- or all cases --  
25 they're supposed to do it in all cases. Any time

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1 there's a weird issue with a piece of equipment, an  
2 error message, something outside the normal course of  
3 business of, well, the voter didn't know how to  
4 insert the card, or something like that, they do an  
5 incident report on it. They are supposed to give me  
6 the full text of the error messages, the complete  
7 scenario of what happened, what machine it happened  
8 on, everything.

9 Now, poll workers are notorious for not  
10 reporting everything they should and in the manner  
11 they should. They might say, Machine died, had to  
12 reboot it. Meaning the power went out and they had  
13 to turn the machine back on. They might not tell me  
14 which one it was or when it happened, but I'll get  
15 word that it happened.

16 Q. Were machines taken offline during the  
17 November 2018 election?

18 A. Off the top of my head, I'm not -- well, I  
19 know I took -- I also don't remember. I had to  
20 recalibrate a few of them. If I did, it's in here.

21 Q. And you're pointing to Plaintiff's  
22 Exhibit 53?

23 A. Yes. Is that 53? Yeah.

24 Q. If we could turn to the second page --

25 A. This is on 55?

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1 Q. Yeah, sorry. Let's turn back to Exhibit 55.  
2 I apologize.

3 Second page, if you could look down at the  
4 bottom of the page. And if you could -- do you see  
5 the portion of the article that refers to double  
6 votes being cast in local election?

7 A. Count paragraphs from the bottom for me.

8 Q. Let's see. One, two, three, four, five,  
9 six.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And, yeah, so do you see where it refers to  
12 double votes being cast in local elections?

13 A. Yes. I do.

14 Q. Could you describe to me -- well, first,  
15 perhaps, describe to me what double voting is?

16 A. It's when one person casts two ballots in  
17 one election. At least that's what I'm calling it  
18 here.

19 Q. Fair enough.

20 How does it happen that voters cast more  
21 than one ballot in an election?

22 A. Well, I guess the simplest way to explain it  
23 would be employee error. One thing I talk about in  
24 this article is that poll workers make mistakes.  
25 Everybody makes mistakes.



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1 And these are temporary employees with as  
2 much training we can give them in a short amount of  
3 time. They're being asked to do a very difficult job  
4 for a 12-hour period. I mean, mistakes do happen.  
5 That would be, of course, on election day.

6 So when the person said, I didn't get a  
7 chance to vote, they didn't go back to confirm  
8 properly that vote had already been cast, whether  
9 that was through determining eligibility again or  
10 through accounting for the votes on the voting  
11 machines, they didn't follow some step of the  
12 procedure because if they follow their procedures,  
13 that wouldn't happen.

14 Now, we do have people sometimes at no fault  
15 of their own, usually the elderly come in. Because  
16 the advance voting goes on for long, especially on  
17 those 45 days, they come in on the first day and come  
18 in the last day thinking it's a whole different  
19 election trying to vote twice. So if the poll worker  
20 didn't catch it, they might have cast two ballots.

21 The example I use in the article, the card  
22 reader on the express poll does not lock the card in.  
23 There's an LED that turns green -- or red when  
24 creating the card, green when it's safe to remove.  
25 There's an indication on the screen saying, Remove

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1 the card, give it to the voter.

2 When they're in a hurry and when there's a  
3 line of people -- you know, a hundred people in front  
4 of you waiting for you to do your job, you're in a  
5 hurry. You pull it out a split second too soon. It  
6 doesn't encode all the information properly. They go  
7 to the machine and this card doesn't work.

8 Well, there's also people who get to the  
9 machine and go ahead and cast that ballot either  
10 because they got confused and cast a blank ballot or  
11 thought they were being clever or something -- and  
12 come back and try to get another card. Well, I  
13 didn't vote because I didn't vote for anything.

14 . . . . And they are supposed to go through and  
15 count the number of votes on the voting system. The  
16 number of cards they've issued as opposed to the  
17 number of votes they received. If all of them are  
18 matched, yes, that person's already voted. They  
19 can't vote again.

20 If it's one less on the machines, then that  
21 card was bad. We need to remake that for the person.  
22 At a large polling place in a big election, that's  
23 extraordinarily difficult to do without stopping the  
24 process completely. We tried to avoid that. So,  
25 again, mistakes happen.

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1 Q. Mm-hmm. The article refers to -- I'm  
2 looking at a paragraph or two from the bottom of the  
3 second page.

4 A. Okay.

5 Q. So I see the part about -- that you just  
6 described about taking it out of the machine a little  
7 too quickly. The paragraph above you says that  
8 sometimes it's a matter of voter access cards not  
9 functioning.

10 Is voter access cards not functioning a  
11 separate issue from --

12 MR. MILLER: I'm sorry. Can you clarify  
13 where you are here? Are you looking at the  
14 paragraph above the one he just referenced  
15 or --

16 MR. POWERS: Fair enough.

17 MR. MILLER: Okay.

18 BY MR. POWERS:

19 Q. Do you see where the paragraph that says,  
20 Sometimes Kirk said it's simply a matter of voter  
21 access cards not functioning? It's the second  
22 paragraph from bottom.

23 A. To answer your question, yes, those two  
24 issues are -- that's not two issues. That's the same  
25 issue.

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1 Sometimes Kirk said it's simply a matter of  
2 voter access cards not functioning. They just don't  
3 get programmed properly. The person usually takes it  
4 out of the machine a little too quickly and all the  
5 information doesn't get put on there.

6 Q. Got it. And so how does the -- how does the  
7 programming affect the issue with respect to double  
8 voting?

9 A. Well, the program we're discussing in this  
10 article is specifically the programming of the voter  
11 access card by the express poll. And I probably used  
12 the wrong phrase and actually called it "encoding" or  
13 something of that nature.

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. That's not really an issue for double  
16 voting. That's explaining why we would have to  
17 examine if a person's voted or not.

18 So just because somebody claims they haven't  
19 voted yet doesn't mean they haven't voted yet,  
20 especially if they have the card in their hand.  
21 Chances are they already voted because that's how you  
22 get it back out of the machine.

23 So then we have to follow these procedures.  
24 And the most common cause for us following these  
25 procedures, the express poll operator pulling the

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1 card -- the voter access card out the express poll  
2 too quickly.

3 Q. Does that mean the voter access card isn't  
4 functioning or --

5 A. It means they did not give the equipment a  
6 chance to do its job.

7 Q. Thank you.

8 A. I guess the IT way of saying that is there's  
9 a short between the keyboard and the chair.

10 Q. Is it the poll worker or the voter who's  
11 pulling the voter access card out?

12 A. The poll worker.

13 Q. So in short, the poll worker pulls out the  
14 card too quickly and that's how the problem occurs?

15 A. Mm-hmm.

16 Are we good on this one?

17 Q. First, let's turn back to Exhibit 53.

18 A. Okay.

19 Q. If you could turn to pages 290 and 291, I  
20 think they refer to the same voter.

21 A. They do.

22 Q. And looking at page 291, it looks like you  
23 spoke with Brenda Hudson --

24 A. Wait one second.

25 MR. POWERS: Strike that. Let me know

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1 when you've had a chance to read it.

2 (Witness reviewing document.)

3 THE WITNESS: Go ahead.

4 BY MR. POWERS:

5 Q. Do you see the incident report that you  
6 filled out on page 291?

7 A. I do.

8 Q. Who was the voter who had the issue  
9 reflected on page 291?

10 A. Brenda Hudson.

11 Q. Can you please describe for me what happened  
12 with Ms. Hudson and trying to vote in the 2018  
13 election?

14 A. Ms. Hudson came to advance voting in my  
15 office. I'm not sure what day she came in because  
16 this all talks about the phone calls into the office  
17 after she left.

18 She says that -- she told one of my staff  
19 members that she was unable to cast her ballot, that  
20 when she went to the review screen, the voter access  
21 card popped out and the screen went blank. She then  
22 notified the person that was manning the exit door  
23 what happened.

24 From my recollection of this, what's  
25 described here isn't actually what happened. Rather

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1 than it popping out and the screen going blank, it  
2 returned to the screen to prepare for the next voter.  
3 The machine didn't turn actually turn off. The  
4 screen did not go blank. And when I talked to her  
5 later, I confirmed that.

6 What this was was one of the issues I talked  
7 about earlier about lag where she hit "next."  
8 There's a -- when you hit that last button before the  
9 summary screen on a DRE, it parses all your  
10 selections into a displayable format for the review  
11 screen.

12 In that lag, at that split second or two,  
13 she touched the screen again. At that point, the  
14 machine interpreted that touch as cast ballot because  
15 that's where the button is on the next screen.

16 So as soon as it displayed the review  
17 screen, the card popped out. Said, Thank you for  
18 casting your ballot. Please return to a poll worker.

19 At that point, she approached one of my  
20 employees to explain what happened. He did his job  
21 in telling her, you know, once you vote, it's final.  
22 We apologize. And I hate having to say that in an  
23 election, but it's an ageing system.

24 She contacted us again to make sure we knew  
25 what was going on --

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1 MR. MILLER: Can we pause for a second?

2 (Discussion ensued off the record.)

3 MR. POWERS: For the record, we had  
4 counsel join us.

5 MR. BERGER: I'm just helping out.

6 MR. POWERS: Could you just state --

7 MR. BERGER: My name is Justin Berger,  
8 attorney with Coalition.

9 MR. POWERS: Thank you.

10 THE WITNESS: I explained to her what  
11 happened. I explained there was nothing to  
12 be done about it. She was never -- I don't  
13 think she ever understood what I was trying  
14 to tell her. She was elderly and just  
15 didn't get the concept. It's hard to  
16 explain over the phone especially. And she  
17 was never satisfied and finally just hung up  
18 on me.

19 BY MR. POWERS:

20 Q. And, basically, what was the nature in terms  
21 of her complaint about her actual vote?

22 A. She was concerned that she didn't have a  
23 chance to review her ballot to make sure all of her  
24 selections were what she wanted them to be.

25 Q. If we could turn to page 295. I suppose I



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1 should ask actually, are the -- it looks like there  
2 are pages 294 and 295.

3 A. Those are related.

4 Q. Okay. Let's -- first, who is the voter?

5 A. The voter in question here is -- I have her  
6 identified as Ms. Maddox.

7 Q. What date did this incident occur?

8 A. The date of the first incident report is  
9 October 25th at 10:30 a.m. The second, which is the  
10 resolution, is October 25th at 11:00 a.m.

11 Q. What happened with Ms. Maddox's voting  
12 experience in the 2018 election?

13 A. This is another one who came back and it  
14 looks like at a later date to tell me what happened;  
15 that when she came in to vote, she touched one  
16 candidate and says that another candidate was  
17 selected as we talked about earlier.

18 She was looking for some assurance that her  
19 vote was recorded properly.

20 Let's see here. So it looks like in this  
21 case, I described how the system worked. I told her  
22 my experience with it and all the testing I've done  
23 on it. And that seemed to reassure her that what she  
24 saw in her summary screen was how the vote was  
25 recorded. And she left satisfied.

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1 And then she identified which machine she  
2 was talking about, so we immediately went and  
3 recalibrated it.

4 Q. Before you recalibrate a machine, do you  
5 check to see if there's an actual issue that requires  
6 fixing or if it was just something perceived by --

7 A. I have no way of doing that that I'm  
8 comfortable doing during an active election because  
9 that would involve me touching the screen in  
10 different places to see what's going on. I normally  
11 just take them at their word mostly to say that I  
12 took an action.

13 But, for example, in this case we're talking  
14 about a machine -- anybody know what day of week  
15 October 25th was?

16 MR. BERGER: Was that a Monday or  
17 Tuesday? Is that the first day of early  
18 voting?

19 MR. MILLER: It was a Thursday.

20 THE WITNESS: Okay. She came in to vote  
21 on the Friday before that and then came in  
22 the next Thursday to tell me about it. In  
23 that time I could not tell you how many  
24 voters voted on that machine without a  
25 problem that was never reported to us.

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1           So I have to think that was very much  
2           her experience and not everyone's  
3           experience, probably based on where she  
4           touched the screen.

5 BY MR. POWERS:

6           Q. If we could turn to pages 296 and 297.  
7           Are the incident reports on pages 296 and  
8           297 related?

9           A. No. It's different pieces of equipment.  
10          Let me make sure. Hold on.

11           No, they are related. You're absolutely  
12          right. One is the problem. The other is the  
13          resolution.

14          Q. And this, for the record, was an incident  
15          that occurred at the Cartersville Civic Center?

16          A. Yes. And that would be during advance  
17          voting.

18          Q. Could you describe the -- was there an issue  
19          with the DRE machine at the Cartersville Civic  
20          Center?

21          A. It looks what -- oh, this is not DRE at all.  
22          This is express poll.

23          Q. Oh, sorry.

24          A. In advance voting, all the express polls do  
25          is create ballot styles. They are not linked to

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1 voters at all. There are no names on the express  
2 poll in advanced voting.

3 So what this is describing is as they tried  
4 to boot it up, it tried to load the database off the  
5 memory card and was unsuccessful and generated an  
6 error message. They tried to reboot it multiple  
7 times to give it a chance to reload the database.  
8 Like any computer, oftentimes rebooting solves the  
9 issue.

10 When they were unsuccessful, we sent out a  
11 new express poll to them to keep them up and running  
12 and brought the other one back to the office. And  
13 that was probably set aside to be tested after the  
14 election or going into the next election if we needed  
15 to use it again.

16 Q. And in that situation, you'll just test the  
17 machine afterwards to see if it can be used in future  
18 elections?

19 A. Right. There's a chance that the memory  
20 card, there's something wrong with it and there's  
21 actually nothing wrong the express poll at all.

22 I have a tendency while voting is going on  
23 to solve the issue in the fastest easiest way  
24 possible and go back and address it later if  
25 necessary. In this case, I'm not sure we went back

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1 to this express poll because we don't plan on using  
2 it again.

3 Q. What issue would happen with the memory card  
4 that would cause that --

5 A. The same as any kind of removable media.  
6 Every once in a while, some data gets corrupted and  
7 you have to restore the media. This is no different.

8 Q. Let's turn to page 307.

9 What was the time and place of the incident  
10 on page 307?

11 A. November 6, 2018, 8:01 a.m. at the White  
12 polling place.

13 Q. Do you see where Ms. Bagwell says that --  
14 well, strike that.

15 Could you summarize for me what the issue is  
16 on page 307?

17 A. Ms. Bagwell called the manager over to  
18 explain that she was concerned about the calibration  
19 on the machine because when she went to touch it,  
20 another candidate was selected.

21 Corey, the manager, told her about  
22 calibration issues and I remember talking to the  
23 manager about this after that election. I had to  
24 call her about something else and we discussed this.

25 The woman had a -- Ms. Bagwell had a long

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1 sleeve and as I understand was fairly stiff. So when  
2 she reached out, the sleeve was touching the screen  
3 before -- and this is the voter's admission.

4 The screen was -- the sleeve was touching  
5 the screen before the voter did. Therefore, that's  
6 where it was recorded rather where her finger was  
7 pointed.

8 Remember, these are old touch screens. Back  
9 in the day, it was physical touch not capacitive.

10 Q. So with the current DRE machines, is it  
11 accurate that pieces of clothing can be registered as  
12 a touch on a screen?

13 A. I think it's more accurate to say anything  
14 that can touch the screen can register a touch on the  
15 screen, whether you're using your finger, a pencil  
16 eraser, your sleeve, your tie, hair. Anything that  
17 touches it can register as touch.

18 Q. Sometimes voters will accidentally touch the  
19 screen with something other than their hand and not  
20 realize that it's registering the machine?

21 A. Or another good example is -- because it  
22 averages all the points that are touched. So if you  
23 touch both sides of the screen at the same time, it's  
24 going to record that as a touch in the middle.  
25 That's how that technology works.

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1           So when they're gripping the screen, holding  
2           onto it when they're voting, it's registering halfway  
3           between their finger and their thumb.

4           Q.   Interesting.   Interesting.

5           So, for example, if I'm touching the top of  
6           the screen with my finger, but my sleeve is touching  
7           the bottom portion of the screen, the touch will be  
8           registered at some point in the middle?

9           A.   Assuming that both things touch the screen  
10          at exactly the same time.   Otherwise, it's whatever  
11          one touches first.

12          Q.   Got it.   And if it touches first, then  
13          you -- you -- if it's not the choice you need, you  
14          need to unselect it and retouch the correct portion  
15          of the screen?

16          A.   Exactly.

17          Q.   Last one of these.   Let's turn to page 317.

18          A.   Yeah.   I know what this one is.

19          Q.   Would you tell me about the time and place  
20          of the incident reported on page 317?

21          A.   November 6, 2018 at 7:15 p.m. at the Pine  
22          Log polling place.

23          Q.   What was the incident recorded and reflected  
24          on page 317?

25          A.   Remember I told you poll workers aren't

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1 always good about explaining things? She couldn't  
2 get the machine to print.

3 There's a little lever next to the printer  
4 on the R6s. If that lever comes up, the part that  
5 holds the paper down comes up and it can't write to  
6 the printer.

7 So when she saw the error message, she  
8 called me. I told her to put the lever back down and  
9 she printed with no problem. It had nothing to do  
10 with counting votes.

11 Q. Mm-hmm, mm-hmm. Who was the poll worker  
12 that you spoke to about this?

13 A. Lorai Bell spelled L-O-R-A-I.

14 MR. POWERS: Why don't we take a brief  
15 break?

16 (Recess from 2:01 p.m. to 2:19 p.m.)

17 BY MR. POWERS:

18 Q. Mr. Kirk, sometimes does it happen there are  
19 long lines at early voting locations or polling  
20 places on election day in Bartow County?

21 A. Occasionally, yes.

22 Q. What are the circumstances that cause long  
23 lines at early voting locations -- or, excuse me,  
24 election day polling places?

25 A. In general, a lot of folks decide to show up



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1 at the same time.

2 One specific example is my office and -- my  
3 office is not designed for what we use it for. It's  
4 the old state patrol barracks with the attached DDS  
5 facility next door that's about twice the size of  
6 this room.

7 I can only fit at most six machines in that  
8 space to be used for voting. When everybody in their  
9 brother decides to show up for a  
10 presidential/gubernatorial election, that line is  
11 wrapped around the building. You can only make the  
12 line go so fast when you're fitting six machines in  
13 the facility.

14 Besides that, there are times that we just  
15 can't get the voters processed fast enough,  
16 especially during advanced voting where there's more  
17 to the process of paperwork than just grabbing a  
18 birth certificate from his hand and seeing a driver's  
19 license on an express poll.

20 Usually, it depends -- it depends on the  
21 election where the bottleneck will be. In a primary  
22 election, we see a lot of bottlenecking at the  
23 express polls or in the process in general as folks  
24 change their mind as to what party's ballot they want  
25 to vote; or in an election with a lot of

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1 constitutional amendments; or a big SPLOST election.  
2 That's probably the first time a voter ever saw those  
3 questions. They get to the machine. It takes them a  
4 while to read those questions once they get there.

5 That's basically what causes it.

6 Q. Are there times where -- what's the maximum  
7 number of DRE machines you had to take offline at  
8 your office at any given point in time during early  
9 voting?

10 A. In what election? Or just in general?

11 Q. In general.

12 A. I can't think of a time where I've taken one  
13 out of service at a time. I usually go ahead and  
14 create a couple of spares for that office because of  
15 a three-week period for older -- and I'll go ahead  
16 and swap those out throughout the process to get  
17 tabulation easier on election night. But because of  
18 actual problems, not that often.

19 Q. Are you aware of voters ever having been  
20 issued an incorrect ballot when voting in person on a  
21 DRE machine?

22 A. Yes. Unlike election day voting -- so on  
23 election day the express poll ties that voter to  
24 their ballot style, so there's no choice to be made  
25 by the poll voter. During advance voting, they have

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1 to choose that ballot style and location off a list,  
2 which is fairly small text. And, again, when there's  
3 a bunch of people staring at you, you have a tendency  
4 to rush.

5 So even though there's a few points in the  
6 process you're supposed to stop and double check  
7 themselves, every once in a while someone gets the  
8 wrong ballot style. And if it's an informed voter,  
9 they'll let us know. But in most cases they don't  
10 know what districts they're in in the first place.  
11 And they go ahead and vote and cast it. I don't  
12 catch it until after the election when I'm looking at  
13 numbers.

14 Q. Once that voter has cast a ballot in the --  
15 strike that.

16 So is the result of being cast an incorrect  
17 ballot sometimes mean that voters cast ballots in  
18 specific election races or contests that they are not  
19 supposed to be voting in?

20 A. Absolutely. Well, that's exactly what  
21 getting the wrong ballot style means.

22 Q. Once that happens, is there anything that  
23 can be done to allow the voter to vote in all the  
24 correct races?

25 A. Not legally. The only thing you can do to

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1 let the voter in other races is give them another  
2 ballot vote and let them cast it again.

3 Q. You find that this happens when you're  
4 checking vote totals after an election?

5 A. Yeah. Sometimes then, we -- you know, I  
6 used to see a lot of them when we used encoders  
7 rather than express polls. When the poll worker had  
8 to determine for every voter based on their district  
9 combination what ballot style to give them, what  
10 party's ballot to give them. Now we see it a lot  
11 less because the express polls automate that process.

12 We have a tendency to put our better  
13 employees on the equipment. And with proper  
14 training, that gets cut down dramatically.

15 Q. Just to make sure I understand this  
16 correctly, because of the express polls, you do not  
17 see this issue so much on election day?

18 A. Right because the express polls ties the  
19 voter to their ballot style. And express polls  
20 during advance voting do not have any names on them.  
21 They do not tie anybody to a ballot style. The voter  
22 has to look at the screen or the computer for the  
23 voter registration system, determine the ballot style  
24 and then select the proper information off the  
25 express poll.

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1 Q. So for advance voting, in the case of every  
2 voter, the poll worker has to make the determination  
3 themselves as to the correct ballot that must be  
4 given to that voter?

5 A. I think the term "selection" is more  
6 appropriate. We've already determined what ballot  
7 style they should get, what district combination they  
8 should get. They have to take that information from  
9 one screen and input it on a second screen.

10 Q. For in-person early voting?

11 A. And select it on a second screen -- yes.

12 Q. Are you aware of any issues occurring with  
13 respect to voters being issued the wrong ballot  
14 because of the voter access card being miscoded?

15 A. No. Well, when you say "miscoded," what do  
16 you mean?

17 Q. I mean that the wrong ballot style is on  
18 that voter access card?

19 A. Okay. I apologize. I thought you meant the  
20 issue we talked about earlier with them pulling the  
21 card out too early.

22 Well, yeah, by definition if they get the  
23 wrong ballot style, the card was encoded improperly.  
24 That was based on the poll worker's selection not on  
25 the equipment.

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1 Q. Thank you.

2 Do you ever receive complaints from voters  
3 who've said, In the polling place, I think I've been  
4 issued an incorrect ballot, or do the complaints  
5 always come afterwards?

6 A. Well, if they catch it before the ballot is  
7 cast and they tell the poll worker, I don't consider  
8 it a complaint. That's just the process happening  
9 the way it's supposed to.

10 People are human. They make mistakes. And  
11 as long as the ballot hasn't been cast and canceled  
12 off the screen on the machine, get that card back and  
13 then redo it, giving them the proper ballot style.

14 . . . . One instance that sticks out in my head from  
15 soon after I started my job -- I'm assuming you're  
16 familiar with the federal ballot style? This is a  
17 ballot style that only includes federal races for  
18 people who live overseas. For some reason, that's  
19 actually available on the express polls during  
20 advance voting because it's how the software works.

21 So at one point the poll worker saw the  
22 federal ballot style, rather than the full ballot  
23 style that the person needed. He ended up casting  
24 that ballot before he realized -- you know, human,  
25 thinking, Well, I'll cast the federal races first and

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1 then I'll vote the state races.

2 Nothing I could do. He actually called Fox  
3 News from my office on me. And they said, Well, did  
4 you tell them before you cast your ballot?

5 This is an example of even when they see it,  
6 they don't tell us. If they don't tell us before  
7 they cast their ballot, there's nothing we can do.  
8 We cannot retrieve a vote once it's cast.

9 Q. About how frequently does it happen that  
10 someone gets the wrong DRE ballot during early voting  
11 and it gets corrected before the person casts the  
12 ballot?

13 A. Not very often. Again, these are not things  
14 I usually record in an incident report. On election  
15 day, there's a way for them to record that that  
16 happened, not so much during advance voting. We can  
17 see in the computer that the ballot was reissued --  
18 no, no, we wouldn't reissue on the system there, so  
19 there wouldn't be a lot of records for that.

20 But I think that's -- well, it's partially  
21 because my employees have been trained better now and  
22 do a better job. There's also the issue of folks not  
23 knowing what districts they are in to begin with to  
24 know what ballot style they should be given. It's a  
25 two-prong issue. I can only take care of half of it.

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1 Q. It's more frequent that you see the issue  
2 after the fact when you're reviewing --

3 A. And even then I'm reviewing to look at stuff  
4 to update training, to know what I need to emphasize  
5 next time around.

6 Q. Thank you. I'd like to switch gears.

7 A. Okay.

8 Q. Let's talk about undervotes.

9 A. Okay.

10 Q. Can you explain to me what an undervote is?

11 A. As far as I know, the working definition of  
12 the term "undervote" is when someone chooses, for  
13 whatever reason by choice or by circumstance, votes  
14 for less candidates than they are allowed to in a  
15 race based on how many -- you know, vote for one,  
16 vote for two, vote for three. And that's part of  
17 HAVA. They're aware of that prior to casting the  
18 ballot.

19 Q. Is it often the case that there's some  
20 amount of roll-off and down-ballot contest in  
21 statewide elections?

22 A. I believe so. It's not something I normally  
23 look at much. You know, the explanation I've had to  
24 give a few times after I got to the county, I'd have  
25 unopposed candidates call me to say, Well, there's



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1 obviously a problem with your machines. If 500  
2 people vote, yet -- were given ballots -- only 400  
3 voted for me, what happened to the other hundred  
4 ballots?

5 I'm sorry. They don't like you. Straight  
6 out how the conversation went. They finally stopped  
7 asking me.

8 But beyond that, I don't -- if something  
9 jumps out at me, I'll look into it. But I don't  
10 remember any instance of an undervote rate jumping  
11 out at me.

12 Q. Are you aware of reports of an undervote in  
13 the November 2018 lieutenant governor's race in  
14 Georgia at the statewide level?

15 A. You mean a strange undervote percentage?

16 Q. Yes.

17 A. I've heard reports of that. I've not seen  
18 it myself. As far as I know, it didn't happen much  
19 here.

20 MR. POWERS: I'm handing you what I've  
21 marked for identification as Plaintiff's  
22 Exhibit 56.

23 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 56 was marked for  
24 identification.)

25 BY MR. POWERS:

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1 Q. And, Mr. Kirk, what is Plaintiff's  
2 Exhibit 56?

3 A. These are the certified results for the  
4 November 6, 2018 election, including the official  
5 election summary report for all races, it looks like,  
6 and then some pages of the statement of votes cast  
7 report. There's one page for governor here and then  
8 turnout and then lieutenant governor.

9 Q. Turning to page 60 --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- could you tell me what the total number  
12 of votes for governor in Bartow County was in  
13 November of 2018.

14 A. A total of 37,379 ballots were cast in that  
15 election -- or votes in that election.

16 Q. Could you tell me the number of votes that  
17 were cast in the lieutenant governor's race in  
18 November of 2018?

19 A. Thirty-six thousand nine hundred and two.

20 Q. And for the secretary of state?

21 A. Thirty-six thousand seven hundred and  
22 thirty-seven.

23 Q. And for attorney general?

24 A. Thirty-six thousand six hundred and  
25 thirty-four.

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1 Q. Thank you.

2 Do these vote totals look pretty typical to  
3 you?

4 A. I would think so.

5 Q. Have you spoken or communicated with  
6 individuals about the undervote race in the  
7 lieutenant governor's race in the November 2018  
8 election?

9 A. I can think of two specific conversations  
10 about it, one with Garland Favorito about why --  
11 fighting an idea why my undervote rate was so low  
12 compared to the other counties; and then with Sara  
13 Ghazal with the Democratic party. You've got that  
14 E-mail there somewhere in your stack.

15 I think that discussion was mostly through  
16 E-mail rather than on the phone.

17 MR. POWERS: Go ahead and mark this a  
18 Plaintiff's Exhibit 58 --

19 THE REPORTER: 57.

20 MR. POWERS: 57, thank you.

21 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 57 was marked for  
22 identification.)

23 BY MR. POWERS:

24 Q. Is Plaintiff's Exhibit 57 the E-mail  
25 discussion with Ms. Ghazal that you were just

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1 referring to?

2 A. It is.

3 Q. You had --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. You had mentioned -- you had mentioned  
6 speaking with -- was it Mr. Favorito?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Based on your conversations with Ms. Ghazal  
9 and Ms. Favorito [sic], did you take a look at the  
10 undervote rates in Bartow County in the lieutenant  
11 governor's race?

12 A. Well, I mean, I was curious when they  
13 brought it up to me and looked, but I still don't see  
14 anything that looks untoward.

15 Q. Mm-hmm. Did you look at the other counties  
16 to see how your -- the undervote rate in your county  
17 compared to those in other counties?

18 A. No. I asked Sara there if she had any idea  
19 about the counties around me, but that was more out  
20 of curiosity. I can only speak for what my office  
21 does.

22 Q. Sure, sure.

23 Did you do any -- make any other inquiries  
24 with --

25 A. Not beyond what's documented in the E-mails.

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1 The -- she asked me one question about a setting she  
2 found online for the GEMS database about how counts  
3 are displayed. I answered that question for her. I  
4 think that's about it.

5 Q. Tell me about her question.

6 A. I'm trying to remember. It was some setting  
7 in the database she found talking about how -- you  
8 know, the split between screens. And I think -- my  
9 response -- and it was just me speculating was that I  
10 thought that setting was designed for races that  
11 couldn't fit on one screen on the DREs.

12 The way it's supposed to work is if a race  
13 can't be displayed on one screen, it just goes to the  
14 next screen. And I think the setting she is found  
15 was from a different state, allows the split between  
16 the screens.

17 I couldn't confirm. It wasn't in my  
18 database and I couldn't confirm that anything like  
19 that happened in Georgia.

20 Q. Did you check the GEMS database?

21 A. I went and looked for the setting to see if  
22 it was there because I was curious. I didn't see it.

23 Q. Did you find any other issues when you  
24 looked at the GEMS database for Bartow County?

25 A. No.

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1 Q. I should ask a related question.

2 Did you review the GEMS database before the  
3 November 2018 election or afterwards?

4 A. Reviewed it for what?

5 Q. Weren't you just referring to reviewing the  
6 GEMS database?

7 A. Well, this whole conversation was after the  
8 election, so after the election.

9 Q. Did you review the GEMS database before the  
10 November 2018 election?

11 A. Well, again, for what? Do you mean the  
12 normal course of business or do you mean looking for  
13 a specific issue?

14 Q. Did you conduct any type of review --

15 A. Well, just we normally would through L&A  
16 testing. We test to make sure -- yeah, that's part  
17 of the testing I described earlier. The test starts  
18 on the server when the card is created and ends when  
19 we put the results back to the server.

20 So through that, yes, we reviewed the  
21 database, but I didn't go through point by point,  
22 line by line to make sure that -- you know, box by  
23 box to make sure everything was set the way it needed  
24 to be set. If it wasn't, it would become very clear  
25 once we used the equipment.

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1 Q. Tell me about the kind of review or testing  
2 that you do of the GEMS database before the election.

3 A. Pretty much we test functionality that's  
4 going to be used for that election; so the ability to  
5 download memory cards, to upload memory cards. We  
6 test every single memory card to make sure it will  
7 upload back to the server.

8 And then at the end of that -- and there are  
9 reports that are printed off of there during the time  
10 that show we did the test. And at the very end, we  
11 export the results like we would on election night  
12 and upload them to the State's election night  
13 reporting website to make sure that everything  
14 transfers correctly that way.

15 Q. But you're not going line by line through  
16 the database yourself?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Is anyone else --

19 A. I don't want to make it sound like I'm going  
20 through lines of code. I used the wrong term there.  
21 There's different sections of the database that are  
22 configured for races, for candidates, for base  
23 precincts.

24 And I've already checked most of that  
25 information by the time I get to the database. I've

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1 checked to make sure the district combinations are  
2 associated with the right ballot styles, all the  
3 ballot styles are there, all the information is  
4 contained on the ballots that is needs to be  
5 contained on the ballots.

6 So there's not much to need to look at the  
7 database. You know, everything that we need to look  
8 at, we look at the output not how it's created.

9 Q. So is the pre-election review of the GEMS  
10 database more of a perfunctory, making sure it looks  
11 like you already believe it does based on your --

12 A. You mind saying that again?

13 Q. So is the review of the GEMS database kind  
14 of more of a perfunctory procedure before the  
15 election?

16 A. At no point in time do I say, Okay, it's  
17 time to review the database; let's sit down and do  
18 that. This is all part of other procedures.

19 So, no, they are not perfunctory. They are  
20 important and we take it very seriously. And if we  
21 see something that doesn't look right as we're going  
22 through and looking at the ballots on the touch  
23 screens, as we're trying to run the ballots through  
24 the scanners, that sort of thing, then we'll  
25 investigate that. If everything functions properly,



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1 there's no need to dive deeper.

2 Q. Understood. And have you ever found errors  
3 as part of this review process of the GEMS database?

4 A. Yes. Sometimes we find some misspelled  
5 words. Again, I'm looking at ballots. I'm not  
6 looking at the database. We find some misspelled  
7 words.

8 One thing I have started to do with the  
9 database is I listen to audio files as soon as I get  
10 it because there was an instance maybe it was in 2018  
11 where an audio file was left off. We didn't catch it  
12 until halfway through L&A testing and we had to go  
13 back and redo some stuff.

14 So now the first step is, before she  
15 downloads memory cards, run through and make sure  
16 there is audio associated with all the races and all  
17 the candidates before we go any farther.

18 Q. Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

19 A. So I guess that would be a review of the  
20 database.

21 Q. Have you found any other errors?

22 A. No. What sorts of errors are you looking  
23 for?

24 Q. Errors in terms of ballot configurations or  
25 anything of that nature.

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1 A. No because, again, by the time I get that  
2 database, we've already submitted -- well, they get  
3 their information to build the database straight out  
4 of the voter registration system. So we've already  
5 checked that. That's what we use every day.

6 Once we get the ballot proofs in -- and I've  
7 given you copies of all that -- there's reports there  
8 where you see this ballot style is going to this  
9 polling place; it has these races on it.

10 So I can tell from that that the output is  
11 correct. So any configuration errors will be taken  
12 care of before I ever get the database to even  
13 attempt to review it.

14 Q. Sure. Who prepares the GEMS database  
15 currently?

16 A. The Center for Election Systems.

17 Q. Has that always been the case while you were  
18 working as --

19 A. I've chosen to use their services since I've  
20 gotten here.

21 Q. Are vendors involved at all in the  
22 preparation of the GEMS database?

23 A. They better not be.

24 Q. Why do you say that?

25 MR. MILLER: I'm going to object to this

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1 point on relevance. I'm just curious the  
2 path we're trying to go down here.

3 MR. POWERS: I think it's --

4 MR. MILLER: I mean, he can answer  
5 anyway. I'm just putting my objection. I'm  
6 going to object as to relevance and to the  
7 scope of discovery here.

8 I'm not sure where this line is leading,  
9 but I'm just putting it on the record.

10 THE WITNESS: As a matter of policy from  
11 my department, I choose not to use selection  
12 vendors for anything related to the  
13 equipment, coding, anything that's my  
14 statutory responsibility. And that's just a  
15 personal decision that I made.

16 MR. POWERS: Let's turn back to the  
17 E-mails with Ms. Ghazal. Where was that at?

18 Let me see if I can find it. If not,  
19 we'll turn back to it later.

20 Let's move on. I'm handing you what I'm  
21 marking for identification as Plaintiff's  
22 Exhibit 58.

23 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 58 was marked for  
24 identification.)

25 BY MR. POWERS:

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1 Q. In particular, I'd like to ask you to turn  
2 to page 273. And I think there's a tiny little bit  
3 that's spills onto 274, just so you can see that.

4 Could you tell me who is on the E-mails --  
5 well, first, did you print out and produce these  
6 E-mails in response to plaintiff's subpoena?

7 A. I did.

8 Q. Can you tell me who is on the E-mail threads  
9 on page 273?

10 A. Beth Howard, who's my electronic voting  
11 machine technician, and Melanie Frechette, who was at  
12 the time, I believe, my liaison at the Secretary of  
13 State's Office.

14 Q. What dates were these E-mails sent?

15 A. November 1st, 2018.

16 Q. Could you describe for me what Ms. Howard  
17 and Ms. Frechette are E-mailing about here on page  
18 273?

19 A. When the results were exported from the GEMS  
20 database to go to the election night reporting  
21 system -- each candidate in a race is assigned an  
22 export ID to tie it from one system to the other, so  
23 they know the votes are being dropped in the right  
24 bucket in the election night reporting system.

25 When they created the database for this

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1 election -- I forget who did that -- they didn't type  
2 in enough digits for one of the export IDs. So when  
3 Beth tried to upload to the state the L&A testing to  
4 make sure everything worked right, those votes didn't  
5 drop into the governor's race, I believe.

6 It should be five characters. It was only  
7 four characters long. Beth had to go into the server  
8 and update the export ID. That's something that's  
9 apart from the rest of the system. That's not locked  
10 down with the election. You can change that as you  
11 need to.

12 So she was able to make the change. It was  
13 no problem. We uploaded it fine. Kept on moving.

14 Q. Mm-hmm. Could you tell me again where is  
15 that change physically made?

16 A. You want the actual screen?

17 Q. Yeah. I'll rephrase the question.

18 What's the process by which you go by fixing  
19 this issue?

20 MR. MILLER: And at this point I'm going  
21 to have to state for the record that this,  
22 in as much as it's relating to the GEMS  
23 database and ongoing discovery issues with  
24 the Court, that has been settled between the  
25 parties. As to outside third parties, it's

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1 a separate issue.

2 And to the extent we're starting to talk  
3 about the framework, interrelation of coding  
4 cells or anything of that nature, these  
5 items need to be talked about subject to a  
6 protective order that we've been asking for  
7 for some time.

8 BY MR. POWERS:

9 Q. You may answer.

10 A. I'm going to choose to answer in a general  
11 sense. Is that okay?

12 MR. MILLER: Okay. And I'm going to  
13 have to also further state that this is not  
14 a situation where it's just for kicks. This  
15 is state law that dictates what information  
16 needs to be kept confidential and may  
17 influence the election.

18 I don't know where this line of  
19 questions is leading. If that's not the  
20 case, then by all means let me know. But  
21 that's what it sounded like.

22 MR. PHILLIPS: Joseph, I'll say, as you  
23 answer this question, make sure that you do  
24 not run afoul of the statutes that you and I  
25 previously discussed regarding the state law

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1 confidentiality and state law protection for  
2 the GEMS database system, the election  
3 process.

4 THE WITNESS: I understand. So I'm  
5 going to answer in general terms.

6 You log into the database. You navigate  
7 to the appropriate screen that contains this  
8 information and you make the change. Is  
9 that fair?

10 BY MR. POWERS:

11 Q. Is that change made at your office or  
12 remotely?

13 A. At my office.

14 Q. Was it Ms. Howard who made the change in  
15 this particular instance?

16 A. It was.

17 Q. Explain to me on the back end, if this error  
18 had not been corrected, what would the impact have  
19 been with respect to the tabulation of votes?

20 A. None. The only thing impacted was the  
21 State's election night reporting system on election  
22 night until we noticed there were no numbers  
23 reporting for that race.

24 And just to say, those numbers aren't  
25 official anyway. It's what caused little bit of

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1 confusion, why those numbers weren't being reported.

2 Q. So just to make sure I'm understanding this  
3 right, the election night reporting would not have  
4 shown any votes that were cast in the governor's  
5 race?

6 A. I'm not sure if it's the governor's race or  
7 as a whole or just one of the candidates in the  
8 governor's race but something along those lines.

9 Q. Going back to the lieutenant governor's  
10 race, you had mentioned talking with Mr. Favorito  
11 about potential causes for the undervote.

12 What did you discuss with him regarding the  
13 undervote?

14 A. That was a long time ago.

15 I remember him asking me if I did anything  
16 differently than other counties that might have  
17 caused us not to have the undervote rate. My answer  
18 was, No, we do everything the same as everybody else  
19 does as far as I know.

20 We talked about some social factors that may  
21 have had an impact on it, but that was pretty much  
22 it.

23 Q. Do you have any explanation as to why the  
24 undervote rate in Bartow County was -- or might have  
25 been lower than the undervote rate in other counties?



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1 A. No. I have no idea.

2 Q. The export code for election night  
3 reporting, is that a different -- is that separate  
4 from the code for the actual tabulation of results?

5 A. When you say the code for tabulation of  
6 results, what are you referring to?

7 Q. I guess my question is: Is counting votes  
8 for purposes of election night reporting different in  
9 some way than the actual counting of votes, sort of  
10 more broadly?

11 A. I think it's important to clarify what we  
12 mean when we say "counting votes." The votes are  
13 counted when the ballot is cast. Later on, it's  
14 tabulated and the results are put together. And  
15 that's done by the server to generate the final  
16 results, countywide results.

17 That export ID is for transmission of data  
18 to another system not for counting anything or  
19 tabulating anything.

20 Q. The reports for the results are generated  
21 from the GEMS database itself?

22 A. Are we talking about precinct-based reports  
23 or the county reports?

24 Q. Both.

25 A. Well, no. They don't have a GEMS server at

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1 the precincts, so those reports are printed out of  
2 the DREs. The reports on election night and after  
3 for certification are produced off the server.

4 Q. Turning back to Plaintiff's Exhibit 58. If  
5 we could turn to pages, really, 276 and 280. I think  
6 they are dealing with the same issue. Perhaps, we  
7 could deal with them all as a group instead of --

8 A. Okay. I don't have much to tell you about  
9 this one, but what would you like to know?

10 Q. If you could -- well, first, tell me the  
11 date of these E-mails.

12 A. October 27 through October 30.

13 Q. Did you produce these E-mails in response to  
14 plaintiff's subpoena?

15 A. I did.

16 Q. Are you E-mailing with John Hallman in these  
17 E-mails?

18 A. I am in the first one. I am in the second  
19 one. And the third one, Cheryl is E-mailing with  
20 them and including me on it. Cheryl Billard is my  
21 assistant department head.

22 Q. Turning to --

23 A. And I should go ahead and say, I have no  
24 knowledge of the voter registration system's  
25 architecture. I mean, that's what we're discussing

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1 is the servers for the voter registration system.

2 Q. So tell me what you are E-mailing  
3 Mr. Hallman about?

4 A. During advanced voting, there are a lot of  
5 users on the voter registration system. That's how  
6 we issue absentee ballots.

7 The State, as far as I understand it, has  
8 multiple servers to handle that load and they can  
9 expand them as they need to.

10 John had asked us to let him know if we  
11 started noticing a slowdown, so he could react on his  
12 end to expand things as needed and reallocate the  
13 workload. So that's all this is.

14 Q. Got it. Got it. Thank you.

15 Now, how does -- actually, I'll come back to  
16 that.

17 Let's talk about updates to DRE machines and  
18 processes for maintaining and using them.

19 A. Okay.

20 Q. Have you received any instructions, advice  
21 or guidance from the Secretary of State with respect  
22 to improving the security of the existing DRE voting  
23 system in the past year or two?

24 A. That depends what you consider a change in  
25 security and advice. Security of the voting system

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1 is very much a wholistic approach and based on  
2 physical security and chain of custody. A lot of our  
3 security hasn't changed because what we were doing  
4 worked and it continues to work.

5 We are more cognizant now. For example, I'm  
6 a member of a group at the State's recommendation  
7 called MS-ISAC, which is the Multi-State Information  
8 Sharing and Analysis Center. It's looking at threats  
9 to our operation as a whole that way and dealing with  
10 cyber threats that way.

11 But as far as DRE specifically, we haven't  
12 updated that software. We haven't updated any  
13 antivirus by definition because there's no vector for  
14 the antivirus -- do you see what I'm saying?

15 Q. Yeah.

16 A. It's a standalone system that's frozen in  
17 time. We keep it isolated and that's how we keep it  
18 secured.

19 Q. What changes to the processes with respect  
20 to the security of the existing DRE voting machines  
21 have been made in the past year or two?

22 A. I secure my voting machines the same way  
23 I've always secured my voting machines, through a  
24 security system, through controlled access, through  
25 chain of custody, through numbered seals.

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1 I guess there's one change I've made in the  
2 last year to how the database is transmitted to us  
3 where it's being hand-delivered rather than sent via  
4 a courier or a -- I can't remember whose service they  
5 used to send that, but they would send it overnight  
6 with somebody.

7 Besides that, I'm doing what I've always  
8 been doing.

9 Q. Yeah. Let's -- so you're -- in your answer,  
10 you were just talking about receiving.

11 What were you receiving by hand delivery as  
12 opposed to through courier?

13 A. The GEMS database I use to run the election.

14 Q. At any time in the past was the GEMS  
15 database transmitted through an FTP site or  
16 electronically?

17 A. Not to my knowledge.

18 Q. I'm not sure exactly the best way to deal  
19 with this, but I'm handing you what's been previously  
20 marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit -- I'll grab some  
21 copies.

22 Mr. Kirk, what is Plaintiff's Exhibit 8?

23 A. I'm actually not sure. What am I looking  
24 at?

25 It's a document titled, Election Related

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1 Files, dated March 3rd, 2017. And I'm not sure who  
2 produced it or for what purpose.

3 Q. Have you seen a document such as -- or  
4 similar to Plaintiff's Exhibit 8 in the past?

5 A. No.

6 Q. So let's talk about how you used to receive  
7 the GEMS database.

8 How did the process work in the past?

9 A. Once I approve the proofing package that I  
10 receive from the Center, I send them that approval.  
11 They send my print files to my print vendor and I  
12 can't tell you how that was done. They would turn  
13 around and send me my database.

14 . . . That was done through overnight delivery. I  
15 believe it was password protected and Beth had to  
16 call to get the password from them. But it's been  
17 years and years since I've had anything to do with  
18 that. That's what I have employees for.

19 Q. How does the process work today?

20 A. Well, the same as I just described except  
21 that there's a time -- and you've got in my documents  
22 somewhere, listings of where a state election  
23 inspector, a law enforcement official would drive to  
24 a central location for the counties to come and pick  
25 up the files from him or her directly. And then we

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1 had to do stuff ahead of time to say who's he picking  
2 it up from, approve the ID when they got there. Then  
3 once they got back, they had to call for the  
4 password. In my case, they used the Secretary of  
5 State's Office here in Cartersville, so I'm very  
6 fortunate.

7 Q. Who receives the GEMS database on behalf of  
8 the Bartow County BORE?

9 A. I usually send Beth Howard to get it since  
10 she's the one who needs it, but I have gone myself to  
11 pick it up once. But whoever I designate will.

12 Q. Previously, I asked you if there had been  
13 any updates to security-related processes and  
14 procedures with respect to the DRE machines.

15 Other than the one you just described with  
16 respect to transmission of the GEMS database, have  
17 there been any other updates or changes within the  
18 last year or two?

19 A. Not that I can think of.

20 Q. Are you aware of plans for any such changes  
21 in the future?

22 A. For the current system?

23 Q. Correct.

24 A. No.

25 Q. Now, I'm going to... Mr. Kirk, have you

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1 heard of the elections.kennesaw.edu server being used  
2 by election officials to pull materials from in the  
3 past?

4 A. Yes. In fact, I pulled materials in the  
5 past because that's how we used to get our proofing  
6 package. That's how they used to distribute  
7 procedural guides. There was a document library on  
8 there we'd go to to get information we needed. And  
9 then there were files that were sent to us -- other  
10 files that were sent to us through that that didn't  
11 contain personal information occasionally.

12 But in most cases, we're talking about  
13 policy documents, procedural documents and proofing  
14 information.

15 Q. You mentioned other files.

16 Can you describe for me what other files  
17 you're referring to?

18 A. We talked about proofing. We talked  
19 about -- oh, for example, they put the numbered list  
20 back on there for us to get after the election, I  
21 think. Not everybody has the capability to generate  
22 numbered lists off their express polls anymore. It's  
23 outdated software. We have to keep a special laptop  
24 in the office that's old enough to pull the file. So  
25 for counties who don't have the capability, they'll



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1 put the numbered list back on there to send them back  
2 to.

3 Q. What are the "numbered lists"?

4 A. Numbered lists are required by law for every  
5 polling place to list the people who came in to vote  
6 and the order they came in to vote.

7 Q. Got it. Got it.

8 And those lists would sometimes be put by  
9 counties back on the election --

10 A. No. The counties who couldn't generate  
11 their own numbered lists would request the center to  
12 do it for them and the center would send it back to  
13 them that way.

14 Q. Got it. Got it. Thank you.

15 Other than the numbered lists, the material  
16 guides and the proofing package, any other kinds of  
17 files?

18 A. Nothing I can think of, at least not that I  
19 used.

20 Q. Sure. Could you explain to me what the  
21 proofing package you're referring to is?

22 A. Envelope one. And you already have that in  
23 the last --

24 MR. POWERS: Got it. Got it.

25 Just for housekeeping purposes, I'll go

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1 ahead and mark envelope one as Plaintiff's  
2 Exhibit 59.

3 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 59 was marked for  
4 identification.)

5 BY MR. POWERS:

6 Q. Are you aware of any security measures ever  
7 having been taken in Bartow County to try to search  
8 for malware or other signs of electronic intrusion  
9 into the County's selection infrastructure?

10 A. Well, yes. Every time the system is  
11 acceptance tested, they check for that.

12 Q. How do they do that?

13 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Can I answer  
14 that one?

15 MR. MILLER: How does the acceptance  
16 test operates?

17 THE WITNESS: How they check for malware  
18 during the acceptance test.

19 MR. MILLER: On the GEMS or -- I'm not  
20 your attorney.

21 MR. PHILLIPS: Let's take a break.

22 MR. MILLER: That works.

23 MR. PHILLIPS: Take a break.

24 MR. MILLER: While we're taking a break,  
25 I just want to note where we are timewise.

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1 I think we're at about five hours or so  
2 including the breaks, so just making sure  
3 where we are timewise.

4 (Discussion ensued off the record.)

5 (Recess from 3:15 p.m. to 3:24 p.m.)

6 (Whereupon, the record was read by the  
7 reporter as follows:

8 Q. Are you aware of any security  
9 measures ever having been taken in Bartow  
10 County to try to search for malware or other  
11 signs of electronic intrusion into the  
12 county's selection infrastructure?

13 A. Well, yes. Every time the system is  
14 acceptance tested, they check for that.

15 Q. How do they do that?)

16 THE WITNESS: Talking about the election  
17 infrastructure, when the voting system is  
18 acceptance tested.

19 One of the steps they take is to run a  
20 hash code verification on the GEMS server.

21 What that does is it examines specific  
22 files and folders on a binary level. Runs  
23 it through an algorithm. And if there's a  
24 single bit of information in that -- in  
25 those files or folders that's changed, it

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1 changes the output, so we know everything is  
2 exactly the way it should be.

3 And through the server, they also test  
4 the machines because for a vector attack,  
5 for it to go through the server -- for it to  
6 be on different machines, it would have to  
7 go through the server first. And if it  
8 changed it on the server, we will know.

9 BY MR. POWERS:

10 Q. I mean, might there be ways to cover one's  
11 tracks if one is -- if a hacker is trying to  
12 electronically infiltrate the --

13 A. I apologize. That is not my area of  
14 expertise.

15 Q. That's totally fine.

16 Now, were you aware that the  
17 elections.kennesaw.edu server was ever used to  
18 transmit bulk updates for electronic poll books?

19 A. Yes. I should have mentioned that earlier.  
20 That is one that comes in through there. That was a  
21 fairly consistent use of that server.

22 Q. Let's see. I have that here somewhere.

23 So let's talk about bulletin updates.

24 First, could you explain for me what bulk  
25 updates of the electronic poll books is in layman's

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1 terms?

2 A. In layman's terms we're updating the  
3 electronic poll books to say who's voted absentee  
4 during -- before election day, so they can't vote  
5 again on election day.

6 Q. And how -- strike that.

7 At what point in time before election day is  
8 that bulk update transmitted?

9 A. Transmitted or used?

10 Q. Let's start with transmitted since that was  
11 the question pending and then move to used.

12 A. Normally, unless something -- well,  
13 normally, at some point in the evening of the last  
14 Friday of advance voting, everybody works late that  
15 night to make sure all the records are in the  
16 computer properly. So when the center pulls that  
17 file out of the voter registration system, it's  
18 complete because the last thing we want to do is have  
19 to stare name by name adding names later.

20 Because where it's a very automated process  
21 using a bulk update, if you don't use that, you have  
22 to sit at the express poll and look up each person's  
23 name, go into the different screens, select them as  
24 absentee, back up and look up the next name. It's  
25 very labor-intensive.

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1           So we get it late Friday night. We don't  
2 usually use it Friday -- well, we have to use it at  
3 some point that week, usually Saturday, if not  
4 Saturday, then Sunday in preparation to check out the  
5 express poll with the poll managers on Monday.

6           Q. To clarify my earlier question, is it  
7 currently the practice of -- that these bulk updates  
8 are transmitted through the elections.kennesaw.edu  
9 site?

10          A. As far as I know, that site doesn't exist  
11 anymore. So, no.

12          Q. Fair enough.  
13 How are bulk updates currently transmitted?

14          A. Through a secured FTP site.

15          Q. Got it. How long -- strike that.

16               For what period of time were bulk updates in  
17 the past previously submitted through the  
18 elections.kennesaw.edu site?

19          A. I'm trying to remember if they'd -- if we  
20 did the bulk update like that when it came to the  
21 county. I think we did.

22               So from my knowledge, from the time I  
23 started this job through whenever they changed to the  
24 FTP site. And I can't remember when exactly that  
25 was. It was sometime in the last couple of years.

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1 Q. Is Bartow one of the counties that receives  
2 the -- or strike that.

3 Is Bartow County one of the counties that  
4 received the bulk updates electronically from the  
5 Secretary of State's Office?

6 A. You mean currently? Right now? If I was  
7 having an election, I would receive it electronically  
8 from the State?

9 Q. Yes.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Did you ever download bulk updates from the  
12 elections.kennesaw.edu website?

13 A. I'm sure I did if that's where they posted  
14 them.

15 Q. How would the -- I apologize if this is  
16 super basic. But basically the process is that you  
17 would E-mail someone from the Secretary of State and  
18 say, I need a -- I need you to send me the bulk  
19 update, they post it on the elections.kennesaw.edu  
20 website and then you pull it down manually?

21 A. No. The one that talks about -- the  
22 transmission of data to and from the center shows it  
23 to you. There's a -- very rarely do I tell them when  
24 I'm ready for them to pull that file. In fact, I can  
25 only think of one time -- and it's documented

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1 there -- that it's happened because of a special  
2 election -- a special primary that Bartow employees  
3 were having; it was just the two of us.

4 Besides that, the State tells us, You better  
5 have your job done by this time because that's when  
6 it's happening and it'll be there as soon as we're  
7 done.

8 Q. Got it. Got it.

9 So I just handed you --

10 A. There we go.

11 Q. Yeah, I just handed you what's been marked  
12 as -- or was previously marked as Plaintiff's  
13 Exhibit 47.

14 . . . . Could you describe to me what's on the first  
15 page where it says, Bulk upload for KSU reminder?

16 A. The -- this is an election update dated  
17 February 23rd, 2016. And it's saying that -- to  
18 remember that we need to make sure we have everything  
19 in the system by 8:30 p.m. Friday, February 26, 2016;  
20 and that after the center receives the file from the  
21 State -- because that's back when they were  
22 separate -- they'll begin preparing bulk update  
23 files. They'll be available on the website at 11:00  
24 p.m., Friday the 26th, depending on the first thing  
25 that's used. And then it describes where to find the



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1 instructions for how to use that file and where to  
2 call if you have any issues.

3 Q. Got it.

4 When you wanted to download the bulk update,  
5 would you just go to the website and just click  
6 "download" off of that?

7 A. No. There's a few steps in between that.  
8 There's a username, a password. Navigating to the  
9 proper place. And then if I remember correctly, it  
10 was a link that you clicked to download the file.

11 Q. Got it. So it's like a password protected  
12 website?

13 A. Yeah. Think of it as going and downloading  
14 your bank statement. You've got to log into the  
15 website first, go to the right screen and then  
16 download your bank statement. Same basic process.

17 Q. Perfect. Thank you.

18 Now let's talk about the current process,  
19 the secure FTP site.

20 Is the process essentially the same as  
21 before -- strike that. I'll ask a better question.

22 How has the process for downloading the bulk  
23 update changed since the move to the secure FTP site  
24 instead of using the elections.kennesaw.edu site?

25 A. Rather to than going to a web browser, we go

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1 to an FTP client. Log into the State's server on the  
2 client. Navigate to the proper folder on the client.  
3 And then download the file that we need to our book  
4 reader.

5 Q. Got it. Does that process occur in roughly  
6 the same time frame --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- the weekend before the election?

9 A. Mm-hmm. Excuse me, yes.

10 Q. Thank you.

11 A. I'll get it eventually.

12 Q. I do the same thing.

13 Which county would -- strike that.

14 Which employee with the Bartow County Board  
15 of Elections is responsible for downloading the bulk  
16 update?

17 A. Actually, the way I see it, it's me and then  
18 I delegate the responsibility to Beth Howard, who is  
19 the electronic voting technician. But the ultimate  
20 responsibility to make sure that happens is mine.

21 Q. Got it.

22 I want to go back to a subject that we  
23 touched on briefly before. And I want to -- we're  
24 essentially talking about building ballots for the  
25 election.

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1 I think you had testified earlier that the  
2 Center for Election Services -- strike that. I'm not  
3 going to try to characterize what you testified to.

4 Remind me who is primarily responsible for  
5 building the ballots that you ultimately proof for  
6 use in Bartow County elections?

7 A. I usually use the Center for Election  
8 Systems to build my ballots for me -- to build my  
9 database for me.

10 Q. Who would you communicate with at the Center  
11 for Election Systems regarding building the ballots?

12 A. Here lately I've been communicating with  
13 Michael Barnes directly. He has employees that do  
14 work for him, but I'm not sure whose role is what  
15 right now, so...

16 Q. Fair enough.

17 Has Mr. Barnes said anything about vendors  
18 having a role in the process of building ballots?

19 A. No.

20 Q. And that includes under the old system as  
21 well as any new system that's eventually implemented?

22 A. I haven't had any conversation with the  
23 State about would will build databases in the future.

24 MR. POWERS: I'm handing you what I'm  
25 marking for identification as Plaintiff's

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1 Exhibit 60.

2 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 60 was marked for  
3 identification.)

4 BY MR. POWERS:

5 Q. What is Plaintiff's Exhibit 60?

6 MR. PHILLIPS: Joseph, if you don't know  
7 what it is, feel free --

8 THE WITNESS: No, I just want to read  
9 it --

10 MR. POWERS: It's not a test.

11 THE WITNESS: No, I'm actually curious.  
12 It's a contract amendment between the  
13 Elections System Software and the Secretary  
14 of State's Office for ballot building  
15 support in 2019.

16 BY MR. POWERS:

17 Q. Are you aware of the Secretary of State  
18 entering into -- well, first, just looking at the  
19 document, could you read what's under Item No. 1?

20 MR. MILLER: I object here. I don't  
21 think we've established that he has a  
22 foundation as to knowledge of this document  
23 or any personal knowledge as to what we're  
24 talking about here.

25 So if you're just looking to smuggle the

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1 document in through him reading it into the  
2 transcript, that's -- you know, it's up to  
3 you. I'm putting my objection on the record  
4 here.

5 BY MR. POWERS:

6 Q. You may answer.

7 A. Number one, Ballot layout, coding and voice  
8 file services. Scope of all services include the  
9 data entry and maintenance of county-level databases  
10 in the state of Georgia for counties, including  
11 municipal elections that are administered by  
12 counties, state and federal elections and the  
13 Georgia -- in Georgia in the calendar year 2019,  
14 including primary, primary runoffs, general  
15 elections, general election runoffs and special  
16 elections.

17 ESS will receive the data required to  
18 facilitate the creation of paper and electronic  
19 ballots as well as audio file recordings to the State  
20 of Georgia for review and approval -- ESS will  
21 receive the data required to facilitate -- yeah.

22 Q. Were you aware that the Secretary of State  
23 had entered into an agreement with ES&S for these  
24 purposes in 2019?

25 A. In 2019? No.

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1 Q. What about in past years?

2 A. Now that you show me this, I remember  
3 something in 2018 about somebody I know going to work  
4 for ES&S. I heard a rumor, but I never actually  
5 validated that rumor. And that makes sense for that.

6 Q. What rumor did you hear?

7 A. That somebody who used to work in Cobb  
8 County had gone to over ES&S. I thought I recognized  
9 her voice on my database, so -- I hadn't thought  
10 about that recently.

11 Q. Did you do any kind of inquiry or  
12 investigation at that time into --

13 A. No.

14 Q. If I can finish my question.

15 A. I'm sorry.

16 Q. Did you do any inquiry or investigation at  
17 that time into who was working on creating and  
18 building ballots in Georgia?

19 A. No. Out of respect and what I thought was  
20 good for her.

21 Q. I wanted to ask about electronic poll books  
22 for a second.

23 A. Okay.

24 Q. Are you aware of any software glitches  
25 occurring with respect to electronic poll books on

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1 election day or during in-person early voting?

2 A. What do you mean by "glitch"?

3 Q. Fair -- well, maybe I'll start with a  
4 specific question and then we can, I guess, sort of  
5 broaden out more generally.

6 Let's take a situation where you have a  
7 voter who appears at the wrong polling place on  
8 election day and he or she is voting in a local or  
9 district level election. Are you aware of any kind  
10 of glitch that might result in a poll worker getting  
11 inaccurate information about where that voter's  
12 correct polling place is?

13 MR. MILLER: I'm going to object to the  
14 form of the question in that you lead a  
15 pretty long -- "lead" is not the proper  
16 word. I'm tired. You've led a pretty long  
17 way down here and then also just the  
18 assumption that a glitch is baked into  
19 there.

20 I ask if you can rephrase it. I think  
21 the way it's compounded on itself is  
22 difficult.

23 MR. POWERS: Sure.

24 BY MR. POWERS:

25 Q. Are you aware of any kind of glitches that

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1 resulted in poll workers sometimes receiving  
2 inaccurate information from the electronic poll books  
3 about where a voter's correct polling place might be?

4 A. No. To my knowledge, the information in the  
5 express polls always match the information on the  
6 voter registration system.

7 Q. Got it.

8 A. That's not to say there might not have been  
9 something that changed after the express poll file  
10 was pulled. Let's say that a card was mistakenly  
11 sent to Barrow County Voter Registration -- rather  
12 than Bartow County.

13 Barrow County didn't get it to me -- I'm not  
14 saying they have -- until, let's say, two weeks  
15 before the election. At that point, that file has  
16 already been pulled, but we're still obligated to  
17 process that application because it was timely  
18 submitted in this example.

19 So that's when the supplementals to voters  
20 come into play. We'll go into the express poll and  
21 say, They are not here anymore, delete them off the  
22 express poll and put the information somewhere else.  
23 So the information might change when it's posting.

24 I've never seen anything that's not supposed  
25 to change be changed between the voter registration



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1 system and the express poll.

2 Q. Let's talk about ballot secrecy for a  
3 second.

4 Could you describe the policies and  
5 procedures that Bartow County election officials  
6 employ to ensure that each voter's ballot remains  
7 secret?

8 A. Well, the only time there's a chance they  
9 wouldn't be secret is with a paper ballot. There's  
10 no way to tie an electronic ballot back to a voter,  
11 not through you unique identifiers on the ballot  
12 image, not any other way.

13 So the procedures in place would be when you  
14 open the absentee ballots, you make sure to separate  
15 the outer envelope from the inner envelope first.  
16 Keep those things separate; have two separate files.  
17 Verify you have the right number of inner envelopes  
18 on the table in front of you.

19 With the names somewhere else, start opening  
20 the inner envelopes separating the ballots out and  
21 you ensure voter secrecy.

22 Q. Have you generally found that process to be  
23 effective with respect to ensuring --

24 A. Yes. It's just the only time that we have a  
25 problem with that is, let's say, one person chooses

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1 to vote through the mail in the city of Kingston's  
2 municipal election. That's public record. You got  
3 it through the mail. And you can see on the reports  
4 that one vote there. Besides that, the procedures we  
5 use are very effective.

6 Q. Have you ever had a situation occur where  
7 you had a voter's right to a secret ballot violated?

8 A. Possibly in the method I just described of,  
9 you know, just through a circumstance. The only  
10 person to show up to vote in a certain district  
11 combination, certain ballot style; something like  
12 that. But besides that, no.

13 Q. Are you aware of any specific examples  
14 sitting here right now?

15 A. Not off the top -- I know we've had concerns  
16 in the past and we've actually changed precinctwise  
17 as a result of that or changed districtwide. But I  
18 can't tell you specifically when or what happened  
19 with that.

20 Q. I'm going see if I can find it in the stack  
21 of documents we've put together. I'm looking for the  
22 first subpoena --

23 A. I've got that one right here.

24 Q. Okay, great.

25 A. This one.

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1 Q. We would want the first page --

2 A. Go about three from the back.

3 Q. Oh, okay.

4 A. Sorry, three from the front. I just put the  
5 pages --

6 Q. Got it, 49.

7 I'm going to point you to question -- or  
8 document request No. 16 and 17.

9 A. Right.

10 Q. You had mentioned that you can't -- strike  
11 that.

12 Is it possible for you to retrieve the  
13 specific ballots requested in numbers 16 and 17 of  
14 Exhibit 49?

15 A. No. It's not. We went on in our response  
16 to say that if we could, it would violate their  
17 secret ballot requirement, but it's not possible in  
18 the first place.

19 Q. Do you know if there's anyone, for example,  
20 at the Secretary of State's Office or at the vendor  
21 who could retrieve that information?

22 MR. MILLER: I'm going to object to  
23 that. That calls for speculation on matters  
24 that are outside of his personal knowledge,  
25 potentially as something similar to an

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1 expert opinion. But, nonetheless, just  
2 outside his knowledge.

3 MR. POWERS: I'll ask a different  
4 question, rephrase the question.

5 THE WITNESS: And the answer is no.

6 BY MR. POWERS:

7 Q. Are you aware of anyone who can retrieve  
8 specific ballots in Georgia --

9 A. No.

10 Q. -- on casting DRE machines?

11 A. I know of no way to retrieve -- no way and  
12 no one to retrieve a ballot once it's cast on DRE.

13 Q. Do you know if there was a change in policy  
14 during the time that you've been serving as election  
15 supervisor with respect to being able to retrieve  
16 individual votes cast on DRE machines?

17 A. The only time that I've ever been able to do  
18 that was when early voting first started. Back then  
19 the law specified that any individual -- any  
20 registered voter had the right to challenge any  
21 registered voter's vote, absentee ballot prior to  
22 election night. And, of course, early voting ballots  
23 are absentee ballots.

24 So there's a way on the DRE system to mark a  
25 voter access -- or a ballot if a voter's access card

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1 is challenged when you give it to the voter. When  
2 you do that, you give it a specific number associated  
3 with that voter. If you're the first person that  
4 came in, you'd probably be number one. The next  
5 person would be number two. On a numbered list, we  
6 have a record of who got what number.

7 And then if somebody came in later and said,  
8 I'm going to challenge Joseph's ballot, he doesn't  
9 live in Bartow County anymore, if the board upheld  
10 that challenge, I go find Joseph's number in the  
11 paperwork on election night. Remove that ballot from  
12 being counted and then accept everything else to be  
13 counted. But that's only possible if you challenge  
14 each and every voter that comes in electrically to do  
15 that.

16 We stopped doing that when the law changed.  
17 Now, you have to challenge them before the ballot is  
18 cast not before it's counted. So I don't know when  
19 that change happened, but since then, I have no way  
20 of doing that. And even then, I couldn't tell you  
21 the content.

22 It's like an envelope. I could tell you --  
23 I could throw out the envelope. I could take the  
24 envelope. I couldn't open the envelope.

25 Q. Fair enough. When -- trying to understand

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1 this.

2 Let's talk about the process where you  
3 would -- say, an early voter had been challenged  
4 under the old system. So you know -- say, I know  
5 voter X is -- their vote needs to be thrown out for  
6 some reason. How would you --

7 A. Let's not say the vote needs to be thrown  
8 out. Needs to be challenged.

9 Q. Sorry, sorry. I'll rephrase the question.

10 Let's say voter X has been challenged under  
11 the old system and you needed to identify or locate  
12 that vote by voter that had been cast on the DRE  
13 machine, what would the process be for saying, Here's  
14 voter X to locating that record?

15 A. Well, if you remember, when the voter came  
16 in, we recorded the voter's name and number we  
17 assigned that voter when we issued that card.

18 So a week later, somebody comes in. There's  
19 a challenge hearing. We go through the whole  
20 process. The challenge is upheld. We go back to  
21 that same piece of paper and say, Okay, that's No.  
22 103.

23 If I remember correctly -- it's been a  
24 while -- we didn't remove it. That night we would  
25 say "select all." Go through, uncheck the ones that

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1 we didn't want to accept. Accept everything else.  
2 That would chug away for a while and that was it.

3 Q. So you wouldn't actually see whose -- strike  
4 that.

5 So you wouldn't see who person X was  
6 necessarily voting for --

7 A. No. That's what I was saying. It's like an  
8 envelope. I can take the envelope. I can put the  
9 envelope somewhere else, but I can't open it.

10 Q. Got it. Where was the number associated  
11 with that voter's ballot maintained?

12 A. This was a while back. But I think what we  
13 did was use the ballot number that we issued as that  
14 number, but I don't know that for sure. That was a  
15 long time ago.

16 Q. What is the ballot number?

17 A. The ballot number would be a number  
18 generated by the voter registration system we issue,  
19 the ballot in that system. And part of the confusion  
20 here is that issuing a ballot happens a few times, a  
21 few different ways, not all of which is handing  
22 somebody a piece of paper.

23 Q. Fair enough. When that voter cast his or  
24 her ballot on the DRE system, would his or her ballot  
25 number pop up on the screen?

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1 A. No.

2 Q. No?

3 A. To my knowledge, the voter never knew that  
4 was going on. We just did our job behind the  
5 counter. Gave them a card and they voted the same  
6 way they had always voted; the same way we vote  
7 today.

8 But then at the end, when the absentee  
9 ballot crew was counting the ballots on election  
10 night, there was additional couple of steps they had  
11 to go through to accept all those ballots off the  
12 machines.

13 Q. You mentioned that these counties would  
14 essentially look at the screen and could exclude the  
15 counting of a ballot by a certain voter.

16 What program were they in or screen were  
17 they looking at where that would happen?

18 A. When they end the election and they follow  
19 the procedures and end the election on the voting  
20 machine, the machine goes into post-election mode.

21 Again, if I remember correctly -- this was a  
22 long time ago -- one of the buttons on that screen  
23 takes you to the screen to accept challenged ballots.

24 So we go to that screen, perform those  
25 duties and go back and print the reports they need to



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1 print. But this is all contained on the machine  
2 before the memory card is ever taken out of the  
3 machine.

4 If we had 20 machines in service at five  
5 different locations, they have to do it a hundred  
6 pieces of equipment.

7 Twenty per five, a hundred. So that would  
8 be a hundred pieces of equipment they would have to  
9 go through and perform the same duties over and over  
10 again on each individual machine.

11 Q. Got it. Sounds time consuming.

12 A. It was.

13 Q. At any time while you were elections  
14 supervisor, was it true that all early voters were  
15 considered challenged voters?

16 A. Yeah. That's what I was saying before.

17 When I took my job, that's how we did it  
18 statewide and that's how we continue to do it until  
19 the law changed about the time...

20 Q. You noted that no longer there's -- strike  
21 that.

22 You noted that there's no longer a way to  
23 essentially pull the ballot number for voter X;  
24 correct?

25 A. What I'm saying is for that to work, every

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1 time somebody came in to vote, we had to manually  
2 type a number, a new number for each person onto the  
3 screen before we created the voter access card as  
4 part of the process of creating the voter access  
5 card. If that's not done, the procedure I'm  
6 describing cannot happen.

7 Q. Got it. Got it. Okay.

8 So before you manually typed in a number --

9 A. Right.

10 Q. -- for each voter? Now you don't?

11 A. Right. And it's in no way like an  
12 identifiable driver's license number, voter  
13 registration number. It was just a sequential number  
14 to track that envelope and that was it.

15 Q. Right. Are ballot numbers currently  
16 generated?

17 A. Yes. I'm not sure why. They are not very  
18 useful for things.

19 Q. Do you currently use ballot numbers for any  
20 reason?

21 A. We track them because the law says we need  
22 to, but as far as investigating things, I don't find  
23 them to be extraordinarily useful.

24 You know how when we order absentee ballots,  
25 each ballot has a stub on it. Those stubs are

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1 numbers. It's the same concept only electronically.

2 Q. Do you know what the state law requires --

3 A. No. I wasn't around when that law was  
4 written.

5 MR. POWERS: Maybe we can take a brief  
6 break.

7 (Recess from 3:49 p.m. to 4:14 p.m.)

8 MR. MILLER: Can we just reiterate what  
9 we just talked about with respect to where  
10 we are?

11 MR. POWERS: Sure. It's 4:15. We  
12 understand that the courthouse is probably  
13 going to be closing at 5:00. We've got to  
14 leave.

15 So I'll go until 4:45 or 5:00, until  
16 it's time to leave. And then we can  
17 continue this and come back another day to  
18 finish up.

19 THE WITNESS: Okay.

20 MR. MILLER: Just to make a note, I've  
21 requested that we wrap up while we're in  
22 here with the air-conditioning on. We may  
23 not get kicked out at 5:00, but I've  
24 requested time for questions from defense  
25 counsel during this single-day deposition

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1 that complies with the Federal Rules.

2 MR. POWERS: And I think we're at about  
3 four hours and 45 minutes of time. We  
4 certainly reserve our right to take all the  
5 time that we need to -- you know, up to the  
6 seven-hour limit.

7 MR. MILLER: Understood.

8 BY MR. POWERS:

9 Q. So let's talk about the paper backup for  
10 electronic poll books.

11 A. Okay.

12 Q. Under the current procedures that your  
13 office implements, do you have paper backup for  
14 electronic polling books on election day?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. How long has that practice been in place?

17 A. As far as I know, as long as we've used  
18 express polls.

19 Q. Could you tell me about the process by which  
20 paper backups are created?

21 A. How they are created? No.

22 From my perspective, they let me -- the  
23 Secretary of State's Office lets me know when they  
24 plan to pull that list or if it's a busy time for  
25 voter registration applications, they ask us to let

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1 them know when we're done processing applications.

2 At that point, they'll pull the file. I'm  
3 not sure how they pull it or in what format. Send it  
4 to print vendor. That print vendor in turn sends it  
5 to me.

6 When I get it in, I use our stapler and  
7 staple it together for each polling place. Put it at  
8 the bottom of the manager's box and that's where it  
9 stays until it's boxed up to be retained.

10 Q. Roughly, how soon before an election day do  
11 you receive the paper backups?

12 A. That depends the election and the amount of  
13 registration activity that's going on going into that  
14 election because they can't pull that list until  
15 we're done processing applications. Otherwise, it'll  
16 be an incomplete list.

17 Now going into advance voting, they put a --  
18 there's an electronic copy of it. And I couldn't  
19 tell you where we get that from because we have  
20 somebody pull that and print it for me.

21 Actually, we just pull it and save it and  
22 never print it out; it's a waste of paper. So it's  
23 available on a countywide level then. And then  
24 sometime before election day, we'll get it in and put  
25 it in their box.

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1 I have had that come in due to a shipping  
2 error -- it wasn't the State's fault. It was UPS  
3 refused to deliver it here because my office wasn't  
4 here. I got it a week before the election and quick  
5 put it in the box.

6 Q. What information is contained in the paper  
7 backup to the electronic poll books?

8 A. Everything that's in the electronic poll  
9 books with the exception of the driver's license  
10 number.

11 Q. Could paper backups -- strike that.

12 Are paper backups for electronic poll books  
13 currently created before or after early voting has  
14 ended?

15 A. Before.

16 Q. Could paper backups be created after  
17 election -- after early voting has ended?

18 A. I'm sure that's possible, but that's not my  
19 job, so I don't really feel comfortable saying what  
20 the timeline should be.

21 Q. Fair. I'm not talking about what the  
22 timeline should be but just logistically speaking as  
23 a practical matter --

24 A. Again, we're talking about someone else's  
25 office and operation. I don't want to say what they

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1 are capable of doing and the time frame they are  
2 capable of doing it in.

3 Q. Fair enough. Let's talk specifically about  
4 the vantage point of your office.

5 A. Okay.

6 Q. From your perspective, could you manage a  
7 situation in which paper backups for electronic poll  
8 books were created and sent to you after early voting  
9 has ended?

10 A. I'm getting confused as to your question  
11 here because -- I mean, are you saying with all the  
12 absentee information contained on them? Is that what  
13 you're driving at or --

14 Q. No. The same paper backups that you  
15 currently receive.

16 A. So if I receive them after the end of early  
17 voting, could I still use them on election day?

18 Q. Correct.

19 A. Well, yes.

20 Q. I want to hand you an invoice you provided  
21 that was previously marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit 48.  
22 And I want to direct your attention to the left-hand  
23 column.

24 Do you see where there's the column that  
25 says, NP absentee?

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1 A. Mm-hmm.

2 Q. What does "NP" mean?

3 A. Nonpartisan.

4 Q. Why does -- is that for a primary election  
5 or --

6 A. No. This is for the general election of  
7 last year. What he's distinguishing here is they are  
8 nonpartisan ballot as opposed to Republican ballots  
9 or Democratic ballots. It was an invoice for a  
10 primary, it would have all three listed.

11 MR. POWERS: Got it. Thank you.

12 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 61 was marked for  
13 identification.)

14 BY MR. POWERS:

15 Q. I'm now handing you what I'm marking for  
16 identification as Plaintiff's Exhibit 61.

17 What is Plaintiff's Exhibit 61?

18 A. These are copies of the election -- the  
19 election results reports off of the individual DRE  
20 voting machines from the Zena Drive polling place for  
21 the November 6, 2018 general election as signed off  
22 by the poll workers.

23 Q. Got it. And I'd like to just look at this  
24 first page here, page 24, and just the very first  
25 column on the left.



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1 Do you see where it says -- the column that  
2 says, Time, about seven columns down?

3 A. The row that says 2014 11/6/2018?

4 Q. Correct.

5 A. Yes. I see that.

6 Q. What information is being reflected in  
7 the -- in that row?

8 A. That's the date and time the report was  
9 printed as indicated by the clock on the voting  
10 machine itself.

11 Q. Again, looking at the column on the left,  
12 that means that this particular tape was generated at  
13 8:14 on November 6, 2018?

14 A. That's correct.

15 Q. In your mind -- strike that.

16 Can you think of a situation where the tape  
17 would read a time, for example, that -- and I'm  
18 talking about election day here -- would have a time  
19 that reflected before the end of the close of polls.

20 A. Yes. The clock was wrong.

21 Q. How can the clock be wrong?

22 A. A couple of different ways. One would just  
23 be human error when they set the clock. The buttons  
24 are pretty small. If they are moving fast, I've seen  
25 that happen before; or in some cases -- and this is

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1 one on the TSXs, there's -- they try to automatically  
2 update themselves for daylight savings time. And if  
3 you've already updated them for daylight savings time  
4 in preparation for the election and put in the proper  
5 time, it might change out from under you later.

6 Q. Got it.

7 Do you have situations where your ballot  
8 tapes will have times that are radically different  
9 than the close of polls?

10 A. I'm trying to think if that's ever happened  
11 before. I vaguely remember some issue like that, but  
12 when I went back to investigate, it was just the  
13 clock was set wrong was the problem.

14 Q. What about a situation where the date was --  
15 for example, had a different year than the year of  
16 the election?

17 A. Well, that one's definitely human error.  
18 Well, sometimes. Your testers will pay attention to  
19 the month and day and not so much the year because,  
20 obviously, that's going to be -- it was the same as  
21 the other ones, but sometimes you have to go back and  
22 actually change that. So usually that's just a human  
23 error issue, at least in my experience.

24 Q. You've seen that -- you've seen that happen  
25 sometimes?

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1 A. I've been guilty of that before and gone  
2 back and caught myself later.

3 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 62 was marked for  
4 identification.)

5 BY MR. POWERS:

6 Q. I'm handing you what I've marked for  
7 identification as Plaintiff's Exhibit 62.

8 I'd like to -- first, what is Plaintiff's  
9 Exhibit 62?

10 A. Is this all of them that I gave you?

11 Q. (Counsel nods head affirmatively.)

12 A. This is a copy of polling places' record  
13 electronic voting machine recount from election day  
14 November 6, 2018.

15 Q. What information is contained in each of the  
16 columns in these recap sheets?

17 A. In section A, it lists each unit's serial  
18 number. The seal number that they found on that  
19 equipment when they arrived that morning after they  
20 verified it was correct, what the -- before the polls  
21 opened count number was before the poll opens.  
22 There's a count on the screen of the machine.

23 Actually, there's two numbers: one is like  
24 the odometer in your car. There's a little trip  
25 meter. One is how many votes have been cast in the

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1 life of the machine. The count number is how many  
2 votes have been cast for that election. It should be  
3 zero before the day starts.

4 The next column is after the polls close  
5 seal number, which, of course, has been redacted.  
6 That is the seal they use to seal the machine at the  
7 end of that election.

8 And then the last column, final column, is  
9 after the polls close, what that count number was at  
10 the end of the day, which is also reflected on these.

11 Q. You mentioned that the after the poll closes  
12 seal numbers are redacted. Why is that?

13 A. Because there is a chance that those seals  
14 are still on the equipment right now. And, I'm  
15 sorry, while they are being used, that's confidential  
16 information.

17 Q. Let's turn to page 7. In particular, I want  
18 to turn your attention to section D.

19 A. Page 7 you said?

20 Q. Yeah.

21 A. Okay.

22 Q. In section D --

23 MR. MILLER: I'm sorry. Excuse me. Are  
24 these numbered or are -- oh, I see the  
25 number. I apologize.

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1 THE WITNESS: You want the one for  
2 Allatoona.

3 MR. MILLER: I see it. Go ahead.

4 BY MR. POWERS:

5 Q. Could you tell me about the columns and the  
6 rows in section D, numbers one through four?

7 A. In section D, they are supposed to -- number  
8 one, it's almost like doing your taxes. Bring down  
9 the number from box B above, which is the total  
10 number of votes cast based on the after polls close  
11 count number all matted together.

12 The second one is how many voters marked and  
13 for that you can go to the express poll recap or  
14 you've already gone to the express poll recap in  
15 section C -- I'm sorry -- and bring that number down  
16 to line two, plus how many voters were marked on the  
17 supplement list of voters, which is not indicated --  
18 that's not indicated above there. So you have to go  
19 to the supplemental list to get that. And that  
20 should -- they add that up in the far column.

21 Number three is a numbered list on the  
22 express poll. That's a different location on the  
23 express poll recap sheet. They have to record that  
24 number. They copy that over. Then they go to their  
25 supplemental numbered list, which has a handwritten

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1 list for the supplemental voters. Add those voters  
2 in. Add them together. Then they are supposed to  
3 give me the total number of voter certificates  
4 accepted that day which is recorded in section C  
5 above in the final column. And then they copy that  
6 number down to line four.

7 This is one of the hardest forms I have to  
8 get them to fill out properly; that they just don't  
9 understand copying numbers over from different  
10 places. And sometimes -- what happened in this case  
11 was the reason she has her initials there. I had to  
12 call her in after election day to have her amend it  
13 because she told me she had zero folks on the voting  
14 machines at the bottom there which I knew couldn't be  
15 right.

16 So we came in, did some remedial training on  
17 how to fill that form out and then she adjusted  
18 appropriately.

19 Q. You're pointing out that's where -- under  
20 the number one, there's a zero with a cross-out --

21 A. Exactly.

22 Q. -- and then you went back and put in the  
23 1067?

24 A. Actually, I made her do it as part of her  
25 training.

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1 Q. Got it.

2 Looking at No. 6 and some of the other  
3 columns, it seemed like all of the columns one  
4 through four matched up.

5 A. Well, what are we talking about now?

6 Q. I was looking at the page before --

7 A. Oh, page No. 6. I gotcha.

8 Q. Yeah, yeah.

9 Turning back to page 7, how do you have  
10 situations occur where the four different columns  
11 don't always match up with one another?

12 A. Usually human error. In this case -- and  
13 you have these pages somewhere in there. There were  
14 three certificates in their binders that should have  
15 been rejected. They told someone, You're not able to  
16 vote here; you're not on the list. And rather than  
17 filing them in the proper binder of rejected  
18 certificates like they are supposed to, they got in a  
19 rut and put them in the accepted binders.

20 So when they counted them like they were  
21 supposed to, there were 1070 certificates and that  
22 was the accurate number, but three of them were  
23 rejected and had "rejected" written across them.

24 Q. Got it.

25 So are we talking about -- what happened

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1 with those three votes? They just weren't -- they  
2 weren't counted, but --

3 A. When we talked about the voter experience  
4 earlier, come in and fill out the paperwork and their  
5 eligibility is determined.

6 When that happens, if they were determined  
7 not to be eligible for any reason, that certificate  
8 has already been filled out. It's already an  
9 official piece of paperwork. They can't take it with  
10 them. The poll workers are directed to write  
11 "rejected" across the face of the voter certificate  
12 and file it in the rejected voter certificate binder.

13 So they just misfiled those three, but they  
14 went through and counted properly like they were  
15 supposed to. Got the right number based on how many  
16 pieces of paper were in the binders. What I tell  
17 them at that point is, It's been a long day. I told  
18 them, With some training -- you've been there for 14  
19 hours at that point. The numbers don't add up.  
20 Don't just fudge the numbers. Write down what you  
21 think is accurate. Send everything back to me and  
22 I'll figure it out later and tell you what happened.

23 Q. Fair enough. And so turning to page 10.  
24 Looking at section D again. We're at the -- I guess  
25 this is the Cassville precinct?



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1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Looking at section D where it says, Had  
3 supplemental voters.

4 A. Yeah. Sylvia had a long day that day.  
5 That's our, by far, biggest polling place by now.  
6 And I'm proud to say just to say it, the longest wait  
7 they had that day was an hour and they got overrun.

8 So I understand her being a little frazzled  
9 at that point.

10 Q. Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

11 A. So what happened here was -- well, for one,  
12 she didn't file the supplement certificates  
13 separately, but I don't think that's what caused this  
14 issue.

15 There's no big deal here. They had 2,598  
16 votes on the voting machines. The express polls  
17 issued 2,546 ballots that were voted off the express  
18 polls. They issued two additional ones off the  
19 supplemental list. And then they had -- they  
20 miscounted their certificates. They actually had  
21 2,598 voter certificates when we went back and  
22 checked.

23 They number them as they go and sometimes  
24 they just misnumber and keep on moving. So they  
25 don't sit there at the end of the day and count every

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1 single certificate. They have stacks of a hundred.

2 So one of the things we do after the  
3 election is audit the certificates and make sure the  
4 count is proper, all the ballots were issued in the  
5 proper name and make any -- you know, we do it based  
6 on that information.

7 But at that time I didn't make her come in  
8 to update it. Either I hadn't done the audit yet or  
9 I didn't deem it to be that big of a deal to have her  
10 come in and update the paperwork.

11 Q. How does the post-election audit process  
12 work using the current DRE machines?

13 A. It's very much a procedural audit. The way  
14 I do this is I divide -- and if you want to come  
15 watch this process, you're more than welcome -- it's  
16 pretty spread out.

17 Each staff member has a different  
18 responsibility. For example, Beth Howard, who does  
19 the machines, is generating a numbered list for me  
20 and getting those ready for me while other staff  
21 members are auditing certificates and getting that  
22 information ready.

23 And while all that is going on, Cheryl is  
24 working on provisional ballots and I'm going through  
25 all the paperwork from election day and advance

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1 voting. I send it out in a notebook, so everything  
2 is sort of a snapshot of that day.

3 So I go through and that's where I make  
4 these notes that I turned over to you. I do a  
5 one-pass to sort of see where we're at, if anything  
6 needs a deeper dive to see what happened.

7 At that point, I figure out which managers I  
8 need to talk to, to call in and find out what  
9 happened, file incident reports. If there's any kind  
10 of investigation into looking at, say, numbers like  
11 this, okay, you know, we need to prioritize these  
12 voter certificates so I can go back and determine if  
13 there's actually an issue or if it's just a  
14 misnumbering problem.

15 And then I go very much where the  
16 investigation takes me. I put everything in front of  
17 me that I can pull and see if anything jumps out at  
18 me. In most cases it's a training issue. I make  
19 notes on how to train them differently the next time  
20 and if I need to inform the board that it happened  
21 and how we're going to take care of it.

22 If there's ever an issue that's big enough  
23 to take to the board for a decision, then -- as part  
24 of that auditing process, then I leave those  
25 decisions to them.

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1 Q. What impact from your perspective does the  
2 lack of paper trail on existing DRE voting machines  
3 have on --

4 THE WITNESS: Excuse me one second.

5 (Discussion ensued off the record.)

6 THE WITNESS: I apologize. Please  
7 continue.

8 BY MR. POWERS:

9 Q. So a little while ago we talked about voter  
10 experience casting a ballot. And I wanted to turn to  
11 specifically what displays on the screen after the  
12 voter actually casts the ballot.

13 A. Before the voter access card is removed from  
14 the machine, there's a message that I believe says  
15 something along the lines of, Thank you for voting,  
16 please return your card to a poll worker. That's not  
17 a direct quote; that's paraphrasing.

18 After you remove the card, the screen  
19 reverts back to the screen that you normally see  
20 while you're waiting for a voter to get to a machine;  
21 so a picture of a card being inserted and the numbers  
22 and all that.

23 Q. At any point after the voter casts the  
24 ballot, does a set of numbers display on the screen?

25 A. There are numbers on the screen. The public

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1 count -- what I talked about earlier, the system  
2 counter, the battery charge, the machine seal number  
3 and I think the machine ID number.

4 Q. Is that number the same throughout the day  
5 or does the number change as different voters cast  
6 ballots?

7 A. Which number?

8 Q. Any one of the sets of numbers that's being  
9 displayed on the screen?

10 A. Well, the battery charge changes if the  
11 machine becomes unplugged. If the battery drains,  
12 then it'll tell us.

13 The machine ID number and serial number are  
14 static. The machine ID number is generated by the  
15 database itself. The serial number is programmed, I  
16 think, at the factory and I have no way of changing  
17 that.

18 The other numbers, the counters of course  
19 will increment as people use the machine. So if  
20 there have been 10 voters on that machine, both  
21 counters should have increased by 10. The public  
22 counter should say 10 and the system counter should  
23 say whatever the day started out at plus 10.

24 Q. Okay. Thank you.

25 Now, I want to go back to a subject that

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1 we discussed a while ago related to central counting  
2 of ballots at optical -- using optical scanners  
3 maintained at the county Board of Elections' office.

4 A. Right.

5 Q. If the Court were to order the use of  
6 hand-marked paper ballots, could the Board of  
7 Elections count hand-marked paper ballots using a  
8 central count system with optical scanners located at  
9 the Board of Elections office?

10 A. For an election?

11 Q. For the November 2019 municipal elections.

12 A. Municipal elections, yes, that's possible.  
13 Anything federal, it's not possible.

14 Q. Would Bartow County Board of Elections  
15 employ the same practices that are currently used for  
16 counting provisional ballots on a larger scale for --  
17 strike that.

18 Let's talk specifically about the scanning  
19 of the ballots.

20 Would the procedure for transporting and  
21 scanning election day paper ballots involve the same  
22 practices that are currently used for counting  
23 provisional ballots?

24 MR. MILLER: I'm going to object to this  
25 for two reasons. Number one, we're

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1 speculating as to what a court order may be.

2 But, second, the witness to my knowledge  
3 has answered these questions earlier. I  
4 think pretty early in the deposition, we  
5 started talking about central scanning,  
6 precinct scanning, the speed at which the  
7 scanners scan ballots currently, the ones  
8 that are currently in possession, the  
9 battery life of those.

10 I think we've been down this road  
11 already.

12 BY MR. POWERS:

13 Q. You may answer.

14 A. Make sure I understand. You're asking if we  
15 use the same procedure as provisional ballots to scan  
16 ballots cast by regular voters on election day at the  
17 polling place or once they're transported back to my  
18 office?

19 Q. Exactly. Let me rephrase the question.

20 Using a system where you're counting paper  
21 ballots cast on election day, what differences would  
22 there need to be, if any, from the procedures that  
23 are currently in place for counting provisional  
24 ballots?

25 A. First of all, besides the fact they are both

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1 on paper, it's apples and oranges.

2 Provisional ballots, there's a question of  
3 while they are in count, they are in envelopes.  
4 There's only a few of them there to be verified that  
5 we have the right number when they get back to the  
6 office.

7 What we do right now is when those  
8 provisional ballots come back, I have a set of  
9 employees who checks the supplies on election night,  
10 who verifies the number of ballots in that -- it's a  
11 bag, secured bag that we use before the polling  
12 manager leaves.

13 The chain out of custody is extraordinarily  
14 important. So for them to turn in those ballots --  
15 I've never done this before. I'm trying to think  
16 through how we would validate how many ballots this  
17 poll manager turned into me as opposed to how many  
18 we're actually accepting from them to keep track of  
19 at each point in the process.

20 So we need new procedures to -- for them to  
21 verify, I guess, how many ballots are in the  
22 container at the polling place. Verify that again  
23 once it gets back to the office. Then start a  
24 process of scanning those one poll at a time. And  
25 since we need to -- I guess we can still identify



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1 which poll they were cast at based on the coding on  
2 the ballot.

3 Q. You have one polling place per municipality  
4 except for Cartersville --

5 A. Except for Cartersville, but it's all one  
6 database.

7 Yes, there would be differences. And it  
8 would require changes. And, again, I'm very  
9 concerned about the number of paper ballots we're  
10 talking about on a system that I -- the more ballots  
11 you put through, the faster you put them through, the  
12 more chance they have of failing. Those optical  
13 scanners are old.

14 And, again, we're not giving the voter a  
15 chance for overvotes, undervotes, anything like that  
16 in this scenario.

17 Q. Just to be clear, currently, you count  
18 provisional ballots at the Board of Elections office;  
19 correct?

20 A. Absolutely. We don't know until after the  
21 election if those ballots are going to count or not.  
22 In fact, in some cases that's not even our decision.

23 Q. How do you account for the security of the  
24 provisional ballots between the polling place and the  
25 central office?

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1 A. We send the provisional ballot bags, the  
2 secure bags they are put in and are sealed. The  
3 first time a voter uses it, the poll manager is  
4 supposed to show them that the bag is empty and then  
5 seal it in front of them.

6 After that, the bag is not unsealed that day  
7 and they have to keep notes on how many ballots are  
8 dropped into that bag to fill out their paperwork at  
9 the end of the day.

10 When they get back and supplies are checked  
11 in, then they go through and validate that the number  
12 of ballots in that bag match the numbers on the form  
13 and record that.

14 Then they are taken to our ballot room, our  
15 secured room upstairs that they are stored in, and  
16 they are put there until it's time to count them or  
17 retain them.

18 And then at that point we make the  
19 determination based on the paperwork if we're going  
20 to count those or not. And then we remove them from  
21 that room downstairs to be counted.

22 Q. So, in other words, you have to sort of hold  
23 them in a bay for a certain period of time while the  
24 eligibility determination is made?

25 A. Absolutely.

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1 Q. Now, speaking with respect to securing and  
2 transportation, could those same transportation  
3 procedures that you're using for the provisional  
4 ballots also be used for paper ballots cast on  
5 election day by regular in-person voting?

6 A. What I'm trying to think through as you're  
7 asking me this question, they sell secure ballot  
8 containers big enough to make this work. I know they  
9 do. But how I would check them in when they got  
10 there, I need to give that some thought.

11 Q. When they get to the Board of Elections  
12 office?

13 A. Never having conducted an election like  
14 that, I'd have to give it some thought on how it's  
15 actually handled.

16 Q. I take it then -- strike that.

17 Have you ever inquired what the -- about the  
18 possibility of using hand-marked paper ballots in  
19 Bartow County?

20 A. To who?

21 Q. To the Georgia Secretary of State's Office?

22 A. No.

23 MR. POWERS: All right. I know we've --  
24 I'd like a couple of minutes to look through  
25 my stuff to make sure I get through all the

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1 questions I want to get through.

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Just to be clear, we  
3 already took a few minutes for you to look  
4 through your stuff. And every time we take  
5 time, it keeps pushing this process out.

6 Now, every time we take time, these  
7 folks get less time to ask questions. I'm  
8 just -- we've done this once. I don't know  
9 why you couldn't figure out how much more  
10 you had to do when you went out and looked  
11 at it the first time.

12 I assume that you are ready to wind up.  
13 Now, are you going to leave and we're going  
14 to come back and there's going to be another  
15 45 minutes of questions.

16 MR. POWERS: No.

17 MR. PHILLIPS: Okay. Thank you.

18 (Discussion ensued off the record.)

19 MR. MILLER: At this point, and correct  
20 me if I state anything incorrectly that  
21 we're summing up here -- State defendants  
22 and potentially Fulton defendants intend to  
23 ask questions of the witness pursuant to the  
24 subpoena.

25 We've been in here since -- with a start

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1 time of 9:30. It's now five o'clock. The  
2 court is closing. We raise the issue of  
3 early closing time at 5:00, much earlier.  
4 We've objected at least one time on the  
5 grounds that questions had been repeated.

6 We reserve our right and object on the  
7 basis of being unable to cross-examine the  
8 witness in this deposition. And it's  
9 unclear right now what the plan is going  
10 forward. If you want to --

11 MR. PHILLIPS: So I'm clear, I'm going  
12 to object to the extent that the duration of  
13 this deposition lasts longer than Rule 30  
14 allows. I think we're getting very close,  
15 if not surpassed.

16 MR. POWERS: How much time have we spent  
17 on the record?

18 THE REPORTER: Five hours and  
19 24 minutes.

20 MR. POWERS: We've spent five hours and  
21 24 minutes. That's nowhere near --

22 MR. PHILLIPS: That's on the record; is  
23 that correct?

24 THE REPORTER: That's just on the  
25 record. No breaks.

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1 MR. PHILLIPS: That does not include the  
2 break times we've taken, probably four  
3 breaks.

4 MR. MILLER: And I wouldn't say that  
5 we're nowhere close. One hour and a half on  
6 the record.

7 THE REPORTER: We've been now a couple  
8 of minutes on the record, so we're at five  
9 and-a-half.

10 MR. PHILLIPS: Let me say this, too,  
11 from my client's perspective, that is a case  
12 number with a 2017 case number. You've  
13 asked a lot of questions. I've not objected  
14 to hardly any of your questions except those  
15 dealing with the security issues.

16 As we continue with the duration of the  
17 deposition, you know, I think that my  
18 understanding is this started out as an  
19 election contest and we're asking questions  
20 about what a judge issues in the future in  
21 an order regarding the printed ballots. I  
22 don't see the relevance or the tie-in  
23 between an election contest and what's going  
24 to happen in the future.

25 But then again, I haven't been privy to

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1 the 400-plus pleadings in the docket either.  
2 So I think that if we would focus in on the  
3 issues related to the merits of the case a  
4 little more, that we can get through this  
5 deposition a lot quicker.

6 MR. POWERS: Mr. Phillips, you might be  
7 aware that plaintiffs are seeking  
8 preliminary relief for the 2019 election and  
9 the feasibility of implementation is central  
10 to this case and that motion.

11 I would -- I understand it's late and,  
12 you know, unfortunately, I would prefer not  
13 to have to continue this either. I do have  
14 a few more questions. I don't think I'm  
15 going to come anywhere close to the seven  
16 hours, but we need to be out of here by 5:00  
17 and it's 4:57. I think -- I think --

18 MR. PHILLIPS: I think regardless of our  
19 good ideas or desire, they are going to move  
20 us out of here.

21 (Deposition concluded at 4:57 p.m.)

22 (Signature reserved.)  
23  
24  
25

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CERTIFICATE

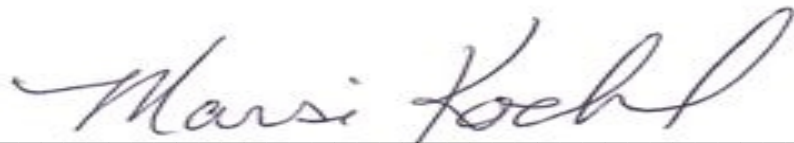
STATE OF GEORGIA:

COUNTY OF FULTON:

I hereby certify that the foregoing transcript was taken down, as stated in the caption, and the colloquies, questions, and answers were reduced to typewriting under my direction; that the transcript is a true and correct record of the evidence given upon said proceeding.

I further certify that I am not a relative or employee or attorney of any party, nor am I financially interested in the outcome of this action.

This the 17th day of July, 2019.



Marsi Koehl, CCR-B-2424





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JOSEPH KIRK

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DISCLOSURE

STATE OF GEORGIA:

COUNTY OF DEKALB:

Deposition of JOSEPH KIRK.

Pursuant to Article 8.B. of the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Court Reporting of the Judicial Counsel of Georgia, I make the following disclosure:

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7/11/2019

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
ATLANTA DIVISION

DONNA CURLING, et al., )  
 )  
Plaintiffs, )  
 ) CIVIL FILE ACTION  
vs. )  
 ) NO. 1:17-cv-02989-AT  
 )  
BRAD RAFFENSPERGER, et al., )  
 )  
Defendants. )

The preceding deposition taken in the matter, on  
the date, and at the time and place set out on the  
title page hereof.

It was requested that the deposition be taken by  
the reporter and that same be reduced to typewritten  
form.

It was agreed by and between counsel and the  
parties that the Deponent will read and sign the  
transcript of said deposition.

Curling et al. v.  
Raffensperger et al.

Deposition of  
JOSEPH KIRK

7/11/2019

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF  
COUNTY/CITY OF

Before me, this day, personally appeared, JOSEPH KIRK, who, being duly sworn, states that the foregoing transcript of his deposition, taken in the matter, on the date, and at the time and place set out on the title page hereof, constitutes a true and accurate transcript of said deposition.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOSEPH KIRK

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to before me this  
\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019 in the  
jurisdiction aforesaid.

\_\_\_\_\_  
My Commission Expires Notary Public

☐ No changes made to the Errata Sheet; therefore, I am returning only this signed notarized certificate.

☐ I am returning this signed, notarized certificate and Errata Sheet with changes noted.

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Raffensperger et al. JOSEPH KIRK

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1 DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET

2 Deponent: JOSEPH KIRK

3 Deposition Date: July 11, 2019

4 To Reporter:

5 I have read the entire transcript of my deposition  
6 taken in the captioned matter or the same has been  
7 read to me. I request that the following changes be  
8 entered upon the record for the reasons indicated. I  
9 have signed my name to the Errata Sheet and  
10 appropriate Certificate and authorize you to attach  
11 both to the original transcript.

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1 Deposition of JOSEPH KIRK  
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24 Signature: Date:  
25 JOSEPH KIRK